DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 010 *15 January 1986*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

- Participants Prepare for Opening of Geneva Talks AA 1
  - Karpov Issues Statement AA 1
    [PRAVDA 15 Jan]
  - U.S. Officials' Remarks AA 1
    [Bogachev]
  - U.S. Sincerity 'In Doubt' AA 2
  - Possibility for Success Exists AA 3
    [Bogachev]
  - Results Depend on Approach AA 4
    [Druzhinin]
  - New Approach Hoped For AA 5
    [Zubkov]
- U.S. Laser Research Seeks 'Military Edge' AA 6
- New Book by Bovin Reviewed in PRAVDA [Ivkin 10 Jan] AA 7

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

- Reportage on CEMA Cooperation Meeting in Hanoi BB 1
  - SRV's Le Duan on Results BB 1
  - Final Documents Signed BB 1
- CEMA Transport Seminar Concludes in Moscow BB 1

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

- PRAVDA Review of Week's International Events CC 1
  [Demchenko]
- Zagladin Views 1985 Inter-European Links CC 4
  [Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO 3 Jan]
- NEPSZABADSAG Interview With Zagladin Cited CC 7
- World Reaction to U.S. Stance on Libya Noted CC 9
- UN Security Council Discusses Southern Lebanon [Chernyshev] CC 10

UNITED STATES & CANADA

- U.S. Policy, Actions Threaten Mideast Nations A 1
  - Call to 'International Brigandage' A 1
    [Mnatsakanov]
  - Comments on Whitehead Trip A 2
    [Ponomarev]
  - U.S. Policy Lacks Support A 2
    [Parkhomenko]
  - 'Anti-Arab Strategy' by U.S. A 3
    [Beglov]
  - Pressure Put on OPEC A 4
    [Nesterinko]
  - Test for 'New Globalism' A 5
    [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 12 Jan]

Genri Examines Weinberger's Background, Philosophy [LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 8 Jan] A 6

Reagan Visit to Grenada Demonstrates 'Hypocrisy' [PRAVDA 14 Jan] A 8

Possibility of Hart Bid for Presidency Examined [Ivanov in IZVESTIYA 12 Jan] A 9

U.S. Congressional Delegation Visits Pakistan A 10
- Hatch Remarks A 10
- 'Dushman' Military Aid Confirmed [Vavilov] A 10

U.S. Uses 'Crude Force' To Halt Afghan Development [Matveyev in IZVESTIYA 12 Jan] A 11

Poindexter Tries for More 'Contra' Funding [Lyutyy] A 13

Technical Problems 'Keep Dogging' Shuttle Mission A 13

CHINA

Tolkunov Receives JINGJI RIBAO Editor 13 Jan [IZVESTIYA 14 Jan] B 1

NPC Standing Committee Session Begins [IZVESTIYA 14 Jan] B 1

Anniversary of Zhou Enlai's Death Commemorated [IZVESTIYA 11 Jan] B 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Shevardnadze Pays Official Visit to Japan C 1
- Seen off by Aliyev C 1
- Arrival Statement Reported C 1
- Meeting With Abe C 2
- KYODO Report on Meeting C 2
- Nakasone Discusses Visit C 3
- Japanese Politicians Comment C 4

Commentaries on USSR-Japan Relations C 4
- Korolev C 4
- Tsvetov C 5
- Vdovin [PRAVDA 8 Jan] C 6

Economist Views Economic Rivalry With Japan [AFP] C 9

Nakasone Discusses Geneva Summit, Nuclear Arms C 10

USSR-Mongolian Treaty Anniversary Marked C 10
- Soviet Leadership Message C 10
- Mongolian Leaders' Message C 11
- Vorotnikov Attends Moscow Meeting C 11
- Festive Meeting in Mongolia [Orlov] C 11

DPRK Envoy Announces Halt to Military Maneuvers C 12

SOUTH ASIA

Reports, Comment on Pakistani-Tribal Fighting D 1
- PRAVDA Report [3 Jan] D 1
- Baykov Comments [PRAVDA 8 Jan] D 1
- DRA Envoy Quoted D 2
- Tribes Under 'Repression' [Fadeyev] D 3

DRA Leading Bodies Discuss Changes at Joint Session [PRAVDA 11 Jan] D 5

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

IZVESTIYA Views U.S.-Philippines Relations [Kovalev 13 Jan] E 1
SRV, PRK, Laos Condemn U.S.-Thai Exercises E 3
U.S. Work at Easter Island Airport Noted [Kudrin] E 3

EASTERN EUROPE

Military Leaders Greet Bulgaria's Dzhurov F 1
  Sokolov Message [Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA 6 Jan] F 1
  Kulikov, Gribkov Letter [Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA 6 Jan] F 1
Bulgarian Minister Appeals for 'Revival of Detente' [PRAVDA 9 Jan] F 2
Albanian Assembly Marks National Anniversary [IZVESTIYA 14 Jan] F 5
Polish Editor Discusses 'Spirit of Geneva' [IZVESTIYA 6 Jan] F 5
Cooperation Commission With Poland Holds Session [IZVESTIYA 10 Jan] F 6
Polish Friendship Society Reviews 1985 Activity [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 12 Jan] F 7
TV, Radio Agreement With Poland Signed 14 Jan F 7
2-Year TV, Radio Agreement Signed With Hungary [IZVESTIYA 9 Jan] F 8
Meeting Between GDR, FRG Parliamentarians Noted F 8
PRAVDA Views GDR System of Economic Indicators [Valovoy, Kazmin, 6 Jan] F 8
Briefs: Construction Cooperation With Bulgaria; CSSR Planes in Arkhangelsk F 9

WESTERN EUROPE

Kuznetsov Meets With Danish Parliamentarians G 1
Arkhipov Attends Railway Plant Opening in Finland G 1
Commentator Views Bilateral Ties With Sweden [Denisov in DAGENS NYHETER 7 Jan] G 1
Political Consultations Held With Italy 13-14 Jan G 3
Reportage, Comment on Antonov Affair G 3
  Israeli Motive [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] G 3
  Cuban Lawyer Cited G 4
  Oleg Bitov Interviewed [Sofia OTECHSTVEN FRONT 13 Jan] G 4
Consultations With French Aides on CDE Held 6-8 Jan [IZVESTIYA 11 Jan] G 5
FRG's Strauss, Ruehl Cited on SDI Participation G 6

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Further Reportage on U.S.-Libya Tensions H 1
  Al-Qadhdhafi Cited on 6th Fleet H 1
  Inter-Arab Committee Set Up H 1
  Libya Asks India's Help H 1
  Tripoli Demonstration Noted H 1
  PLO Officer in U.S. Cited H 2
Israeli Mossad Reportedly Targets Al-Qadhdhafi H 2

Iran-Iraq Fighting, Seizure of U.S. Ship Reported H 2
Deputy Defense Minister Continues Visit to Kuwait H 3
[KUNA]
Lebanese Foreign Ministry Group Visits Moscow H 3
[Clandestine Radio Free Lebanon] H 3
Commentator Sees New Year 'Lull' in Lebanon H 3
[Urazov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 11 Jan]
Anniversary of Palestinian Resistance Marked H 4
[Shevchenko in IZVESTIYA 2 Jan]
Marchuk Attends Sudanese Embassy Reception H 5
[IZVESTIYA 5 Jan]
Algerian Prime Minister Meets Forestry Chief H 5

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Gorbachev Greets East African Heads of State J 1
[PRAVDA 15 Jan]
Soviet Delegation Leader Dies in Guinea J 1
[Conakry]
Crocker Visit to South Africa Decried J 1
IZVESTIYA's Nikonov J 1
[14 Jan]
TV's Mnatsakanov J 2
USSR-Africa Trade Figures for 1985 Reported J 2
Article Reviews Mali-Burkina Faso Dispute J 3
[Tarutin in PRAVDA 13 Jan]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Presidium Appoints Kapto Ambassador to Cuba K 1
[IZVESTIYA 15 Jan]
Ortega on U.S. Accusations of Soviet Interference K 1
Argentine Foreign Affairs Minister To Visit USSR K 1

PARTICIPANTS PREPARE FOR OPENING OF GENEVA TALKS

Karpov Issues Statement

PM150930 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Geneva Talks"]

[Text] Geneva, 14 Jan (TASS) -- A delegation from the USSR arrived here today to conduct the fourth round of talks on nuclear and space weapons with the U.S. delegation.

In a statement made on his arrival at the airport, the leader of the Soviet delegation, Viktor Karpov, emphasized that of a particular feature of the new round of talks consists of the fact that it was preceded by the meeting between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union, which took place in Geneva 2 months ago. At this meeting, as is known, important accords were reached. A decision was made to speed up the talks. It was also confirmed that the aim of the talks is to prevent the arms race in space and to halt it on Earth; to limit and reduce nuclear weapons; and to strengthen strategic stability. The mutual understanding of the impermissibility of nuclear war and aspirations to military superiority, recorded in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement, has the greatest significance.

The Soviet and U.S. delegations face the task of translating these accords into the language of practical affairs. This concerns preventing an arms race in space, deep -- 50 percent -- reductions in corresponding nuclear arms, and an interim agreement on intermediate-range missiles in Europe.

The Soviet delegation has arrived in Geneva charged with the task of quickly progressing toward resolution of the concerns and expanding the points of contact in both sides positions. It is calculating on a constructive approach also being shown by the U.S. side. This concerns all three directions of the talks, and primarily, issues of space. As Mikhail Gorbachev stressed, if the United States finds the will and the resolve to think through afresh and to evaluate all the pernicious aspects and consequences of the "star wars" program, a path will open for the constructive solution of the problems of international security and of stopping the arms race.

The peoples of all countries await precisely such decisions after the Geneva summit meeting. Their hopes must not be disappointed.

In conclusion, V.P. Karpov expressed gratitude on behalf of the Soviet delegation to the authorities and citizens of the city and Canton of Geneva for their hospitality.

U.S. Officials' Remarks

LD151218 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1118 GMT 15 Jan 86

["Put Accords Which Have Been Reached Into Practice" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jan (TASS) -- Vladimir Bogachev, TASS observer on military matters writes:

To judge from the words of Kenneth Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), the current U.S. Administration sees its task as being to give itself a free hand in implementing its military programs and not to depend on international accords or talks in this area...

Speaking at a press conference in Washington in connection with the renewal of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva, the ACDA director cast doubt upon the effectiveness of the SALT II treaty and spoke in favor of continuing U.S. antisatellite and nuclear tests and deploying U.S. strike weapons in space.

Adelman asserted that allegedly the main factor complicating the talks is "the tying in by the Russians of the question of the Strategic Defense Initiative with progress in the area of arms control." He deliberately ignored the essence of the January 1985 accord on the aims of the Geneva talks, confirmed in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the results of the summit meeting. Instead of seeking mutually acceptable decisions in Geneva, the agency director proposes creating a "stimulus" for talks with the Soviet Union...in the form of new U.S. weapons systems in space and on the earth.

Max Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the talks between the USSR and the United States, has tried to attach greater "flexibility" to the U.S. stance. In his speech at Geneva airport hestated that the aim of the United States was the prevention of the arms race in space and halting it on earth. However, it became clear from his statement that by the prevention of the arms race in space he means deployment [razvertyvaniye] in near-earth orbit of offensive weapons, their development [razrabotak] and testing; and that by "constructive approach" to talks he means the agreement of the Soviet Union to breach the treaty on limiting antimissile defense systems and for militarizing space.

The causistic interpretation by official representatives of the U.S. Administration of the joint Soviet-U.S. statement concerning the part on the nonmilitarization of space is causing serious doubts as to the sincerity of Washington's peaceloving assurances.

The Geneva summit meeting has created the prerequisite for a move from confrontation to mutually acceptable solutions of problems on curbing the arms race. The task of implementing the accords reached in practical deeds stands before the participants of the Soviet-U.S. talks which are being resumed.

U.S. Sincerity 'In Doubt'

LD142051 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1944 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Brussels, 14 Jan (TASS) -- The United States has still not abandoned attempts to achieve unilateral military advantages for itself at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons. U.S. official spokesmen continue to resort to juggled facts and figures, in order -- leading the public into confusion -- to gain support for its position in Western Europe.

The press conference given by A. Holmes, chairman of the special NATO consultative group on nuclear arms control and assistant U.S. secretary of state for politico-military affirs [as received], in the headquarters of the North Atlantic bloc, today, was a sample of such behavior.

While speaking in favor of implementing the provisions of the joint Soviet-U.S. statement, A. Holmes' statements actually put in doubt both the sincerity of the U.S. position and the U.S. effort to achieve honest agreements aimed at guaranteeing the equality and uniform security of both sides.

To justify his position, the emissary of official Washington resorted to various conjectures, in particular concerning a certain "modernization of the Soviet SS-20 missiles" being carried out in the Soviet Union. He again set forth lying reports on the number of Soviet missiles, despite the official Soviet announcement that their number in the European zone of the Soviet Union stands at 243.

A new statement by A. Holmes that the Pentagon and NATO will continue to carry out the earlier planned schedule for deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in the FRG, Britain, Italy, Belgium, and Holland, is also proof of the former unconstructive position of the United States in questions of reducing nuclear weapons.

Possibility for Success Exists

LD150025 Moscow International Service in Italian 2000 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Commentary by TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] The Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space weapons will resume in Geneva 16 January. A note written especially for Radio Moscow by TASS news agency military observer Vladimir Bogachev is dedicated to this topic:

This round of negotiations is special. It is preceded by a meeting between the Soviet and U.S. leaders who decleared their intention of speeding up the negotiations. It is important that the tasks advanced in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement issued on 8 January 1985 should be confirmed. They are: preventing the arms race in space, ending this race on earth, limiting and reducing nuclear weapons, and consolidating strategic stability. Is it possible to attain these objectives?

We are firmly convinced that this possibility exists, said Mikhail Gorbachev in December during the Supreme Soviet session. Now, the Soviet and U.S. proposals for the reduction of nuclear arms differ in many respects, but the Soviet Union does not overdramatize this fact. Compromises are possible and we are ready to look for them, but for the solution of problems one has to close the door through which arms could get into space. Without that, a substantial reduction of nuclear weapons is impossible. This is a principled position of the Soviet Union.

What is the essence of the program presented by the Soviet Union in Geneva? Above all, it is proposed to totally ban space attack weapons. A start to the arms race in space and also the launch into orbit of antimissile systems alone cannot consolidate anyone's security. Nuclear attack devices hidden behind a space shield will become more and more dangerous and the present strategic balance will be turned into strategic chaos; channels will be open for a feverish arms race in all directions.

On the condition that a total ban is imposed on space attack devices, the Soviet Union also proposed a 50-percent reduction of all Soviet and U.S. nuclear devices capable of reaching the territory of the opponent and limiting the total number of nuclear warheads [testate] at the disposal of each of the parties to 7,000 each. These are radical reductions, counted in thousands of nuclear warheads [ogiva]. It is an equitable approach because it embraces all the devices making up the strategic balance. This approach allows one to take into account the real nuclear threat for either of the parties, regardless of the type of delivery vehicle, missile or aircraft, and of the point of launching, own territory or territory of the allies. For Moscow, the 50-percent reduction of Soviet and U.S. nuclear devices is only a beginning. The Soviet Union is prepared to go beyond that and as far as the total elimination of nuclear weapons. It is clear that other nuclear powers have to take part in this process, too.

On several occasions the Soviet Union declared it is for a complete liberation of Europe from nuclear weapons, both of medium-range and tactical ones. However, this solution has been rejected by the United States and its NATO allies. So, at Geneva the Soviet Union proposed a start from interim solutions proceeding subsequently to further reductions.

The Soviet Union is also trying to maintain military parity at the lowest possible level in Asia and the Pacific Ocean. In the Asian part of its territory the USSR only has the number of missiles required to balance the respective U.S. nuclear potential deployed in that area. On several occasions Soviet leaders stated that if the United States did not step up its nuclear presence there, the Soviet Union will also abstain from taking such steps. If the situation begins to change for the better our country will respond with adequate measures.

Right now, that is to say, before the elaboration of agreements on these problems, simple but efficient steps could be taken in the direction of nuclear disarmament. The Soviet Union proposes, in particular, an immediate freeze of nuclear arsenals and a total and unlimited ban on nuclear tests under the most efficient control possible. Last year the Soviet Union itself carried out some practical measures designed to bring down the level of confrontation. In reply, unfortunately, Washington did not take any real steps that could be interpreted as a gesture of goodwill or an indication of willingness to enter into reasonable compromises with the Soviet Union in the area of arms limitation and reduction.

We should like to recall that the Soviet Union has also decided to make nonoperational the SS-20 missiles deployed in the European part of its territory in response to the installation of U.S. medium-range missiles in Western Europe. In so doing, the Soviet Union accepted a considerable measure of self-limitation. Now the number of Soviet missiles capable of hitting targets in Western Europe is substantially less than that of 10 or even 20 years ago. How has the United States responded to this goodwill action? By deploying cruise missiles in Belgium and by increasing the number of Pershing-2 in the FRG. Another example: When the unilateral Soviet moratorium on anti-satellite system tests was confirmed, Washington responded by testing a new ASAT system against a real target in space. One more example: Trying to break the deadlock on a solution to the problem of nuclear tests in the summer of 1985, the USSR unilaterally introduced a moratorium on all nuclear tests. Washington replied with a series of tests checking out, among other things, a space laser fed by nuclear explosion energy.

Some advisers of the U.S. President say there should be no negotiations with Moscow because the Soviets always manage to leave the United States in a disadvantageous position. Obviously, for some circles in the United States the concept of advantage and disadvantage is not based on international security criteria, but on military supremacy aspirations. It is an illusory wish and Moscow is making this known in absolutely clear terms, but the arms race is not our choice. As before, the Soviet Union is convinced that one should work for a reduction of the level of confrontation in relations between the East and the West and for preventing a nuclear threat.

Results Depend on Approach

LD141626 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Observer Aleksandr Druzhinin commentary]

[Text] The Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms are resuming in Geneva on Thursday, 16 January. More from our observer Aleksandr Druzhinin:

The success of the Geneva talks will first of all depend on how realistic and constructive the approach of their participants will be to the important issues of the talks agenda.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it displayed such an approach on many occasions. It has tabled at the Geneva talks the proposal for a 50 percent cut in its own nuclear weapons and in those of the United States. Washington cannot help but admit that the Soviet proposal serves to promote the strategic stability in the world. In plain language, this means that the implementation of the Soviet proposal would help to strengthen the security of all who live on earch in the alarming conditions of today.

One of the questions to be considered at the current round of the talks in Geneva will be the question of medium-range nuclear weapons. Here too the Soviet Union has showed in practice its deep concern with the prospect of turning Europe into a nuclear stronghold. While the United States is escalating the deployment of Pershing II and cruise strike missiles in Europe, the Soviet Union has frozen unilaterally the number of its SS-20 missiles in the European zone at the level of June 1984. The additionally deployed missiles have been taken off their standby alert and the stationary structures where these missiles were deployed have been dismantled.

The acceptance of the Soviet proposal urging the USSR and the United States to give up all nuclear tests would of course be of major importance for the success of the Geneva talks and for halting the arms race. If the United States, instead of going ahead with nuclear tests, joined in the Soviet Union's initiative, it would be possible in this case to stop the modernization of nuclear arsenals and this would eventually lead to their becoming obsolete and to nuclear arms becoming unnecessary in the long run.

As you see, the Soviet Union's approach opens up broad opportunities for ensuring progress at the Geneva talks. But all the efforts aimed at ending the nuclear arms race will inevitably be reduced to nil if no solution is found to the main issue, that is the prevention of the militarization of outer space. The deployment of weapons in space would mark a qualitatively new stage in the arms race. The move may have unpredictable consequences.

The Soviet Union stands for preventing the militarization of outer space. This approach fully stems from the joint Soviet-American statement adopted on 8 January last year and reaffirmed in November by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan at their summit in Geneva. Spelling out their objectives in it, the two sides also stressed that it is imperative to stop the buildup of nuclear arsenals on earch and limit and cut down nuclear weapons.

It is clear that if the participants in the current talks in Geneva are prepared to follow these principles, the ground will be prepared thereby for their successful work.

New Approach Hoped For

LD141753 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Commentary by political observer Georgiy Zubkov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The USSR delegation arrived in Geneva today for the fourth round of talks with the U.S. delegation on nuclear and space weapons. A commentary by Georgiy Zubkov, political observer:

Hello, comrades. This will be the fourth round of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. Discussion of the problem of nuclear and space weapons began last spring.

The fourth round. The same town, the same rooms for the talks, the same familiar seats around the table. However, the forthcoming round goes beyond the framework of a routine series of discussions [ocherednoy serii diskussiy].

Yes, the topics are the same, but the approach to their solution should be a new one. In any case, precisely this new and constructive approach is expected from participants in the talks throughout the world. Indeed, the current round of talks will be held following the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. It has become a compass of hope on the difficult and complicated roads of mutual understanding, trust, and disarmament. Referring to this compass, we should move toward each other. This is the way our country is acting. Each new Soviet initiative, each new proposal, each obligation undertaken unilaterally is a consistent and confident step on the road toward peace -- tireless steps. The Soviet Union is indicating by actions that it is prepared to go as far as it takes. Is the United States prepared for this, not in words, but in deeds?

The U.S. President links the New Year with hopes of peace, but on the eve of the New Year nuclear devices capable of turning a laser ray into space weaponry were being tested underground in Nevada. And how can one combine pronouncements about the need for a reduction in nuclear arsenals with their actual increase? It emerges that there are not 108 -- as was planned by NATO -- but 156 Pershing-2 missiles in West Germany; the publication NATIONAL JOURNAL wrote about this. That is 48 additional missiles. They are, you see, considered spare parts.

The U.S. Administration is pushing ahead the "star wars" program, actively seeking its allies' participation. What is needed, however, is the absolute opposite. Not development, [razrabotka], but the banning of space strike weapons. Only under such conditions is progress possible at the talks on nuclear and space weapons, because it is not the aspiration to achieve security via new types of weapons, but the attainment of mutually acceptable accords that will lend constructiveness to the Soviet-U.S. dialogue and bring tangible results. The need for this is understood by thousands of scientists -- those who have declared a boycott of the "star wars" program -- in the United States, FRG, and Japan. Sensible politicians, such as the 30 U.S. congressmen who have come out against the nuclear explosions in Nevada, are also striving for this. People the world over want this, like the Italian peace supporters who released a flock of white doves on the island of Sicily over the U.S. nuclear missile base.

U.S. LASER RESEARCH SEEKS 'MILITARY EDGE'

LD141323 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] A defense research organization based in the Los Angeles suburb of Marina del Rey says that lasers designed for use in the "star wars" program could become a potent offensive weapon. A study this organization, R and D Associates, has circulated among government scientists points out that a laser defense system powerful enough to cope with the ballistic missile threat can also destroy the enemy's major cities by fire. The attack, it says, would proceed city by city, the attack time for each city being only a matter of minutes. Not nuclear destruction, say the authors of the study, (Albert L. Lattern) and (Ernest A. Martinelli), but Armageddon all the same.

The two scientists warn that the lasers can be employed in a manner not contemplated, both as a shield against nuclear missiles and as an offensive weapon against targets on earth, but both ways hold out tremendous dangers for all humanity. Development of an antimissile space umbrella means adding to the nuclear stocks in the hands of the United States what is needed to change the balance of strength and give the United States a military edge and therefore, the potential to deliver a nuclear strike with impunity.

Needless to say, in the event, the Soviet Union would have to take the proper retaliatory measures to guarantee its own security and the security of its allies. If the United States brings its Strategic Defense Initiative to realization this can only lead to strategic chaos: The arms race will move into a new stage and get out of control in all areas, not only in nuclear weapons.

Another source of public worry is the increased danger of an accidental outbreak of war if weapons are put in space. After all, the most sophisticated laser, nuclear, and other computer-controlled weapons systems would be deployed right over the heads of people. Who can guarantee that a fault might not develop that would lead to a catastrophe? Even the present-day less sophisticated computers develop faults.

American scientists also note that massive fires triggered by the lasers might generate smoke in amounts comparable to the amounts generated in some amjor nuclear exchange scenarios. This warning was issued by Caroline L. Herzenberger, a physicist at the Oregon National Laboratory near Chicago. Her article appears in the current issue of PHYSICS AND SOCIETY a publication of the American Physical Society. These massive fires, she says, could cause a climatic catastrophe similar to a nuclear winter.

Yes, there are many reasons why space must serve none but peaceful purposes and benefit all nations. It must be kept free from weapons and steps to this end must be taken at once before it is too late, before the world witnesses what scientists warn of.

NEW BOOK BY BOVIN REVIEWED IN PRAVDA

PM101549 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[A. Ivkin book review: "Conversation to the Point"]

[Text] The International Relations Publishing House suggested to political observer Aleksandr Bovin that he systematize his answers to questions put in verbal form before different audiences. This was how this small book appeared ["Let's Talk to the Point... About Peace and War, Detente and Confrontation, Disarmament and the Arms Race, and About Other Problems of World Politics" -- "Pogovorim po Sushchestvu...o Mire i Voyne, Razryadke i Konfrontatsii, Razoruzhenii i Gonke Vooruzheniy i o Drugikh Problemakh Mirovoy Politiki" -- Internaional Relations Publishing House, Moscow, 1985]. Those who have heard Bovin's comments (on television, for example), know that he is an interesting speaker: He speaks clearly and argues logically and in a well-reasoned manner, without avoiding the sharp corners of modern international life.

In the book the intonations of the spoken word are preserved -- which is what the author sought, pointing out that "there is no need here to seek the honed, accomplished formulas peculiar to the language of diplomats." The accent is placed on the logic of events, on ties between cause and effect, and on explanation, not on formulas. The form of the book, which is addressed to the young reader above all, also seems felicitous.

The dialogue begins with the most important question: Will there be nuclear war? This question entails others: on the fate of detente, the "star wars" program, the causes of regional conflicts, the situation in "third world" countries...The author shows that mankind is capable of coping with this Gordian knot without having recourse to Caesar's method [as published] -- for swords nowadays are nuclear ones. "...My ideology, my world outlook, the world outlook of a Communist, are imbued with historical optimism," he says. "This optimism includes faith in progress, in the onward march of history, and consequently, in the possibility of preserving peace."

The book helps you to better understand the causes and interconnections of various phenomena in international life and to think, together with the author, about ways to resolve the fundamental problem of the present time -- the problem of war and peace.

REPORTAGE ON CEMA COOPERATION MEETING IN HANOI

SRV's Le Duan on Results

LD132104 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, has received in Ho Chi Minh City leaders of delegations taking part in the 37th meeting of the CEMA Committee for Cooperation in the Field of Planned Activity. The Soviet delegation is headed by Comrade Talyzin.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, the government and the people of Vietnam, Le Duan expressed satisfaction at the results of the meeting. He stressed that the consistent realization of the recently adopted integrated scientific-technical progress program is of exceptional importance for the entire socialist community.

Final Documents Signed

LD132233 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The signing of the final documents of the 37th meeting of the CEMA committee for cooperation in the field of planned activity has taken place in Ho Chi Minh. The committee set out as a very important direction of its continued activity the consistent realization of the recently adopted integrated scientific-technical progress program for CEMA member countries up to the year 2000 and the draft program for the construction of atomic power stations in the countries of the community. A proposal on drawing together the economic mechanisms of the community member countries in spheres of important significance for the development of economic cooperation was discussed, as well as a number of other questions. The meeting passed off in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely mutual understanding.

CEMA TRANSPORT SEMINAR CONCLUDES IN MOSCOW

LD110726 Moscow TASS in English 0640 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- Participants in an international theoretical and practical seminar which closed in Moscow today discussed ways to improve planning and management on the transport of the CMEA member countries. The economic summit of the CMEA member countries characterized the comprehensive development of transport communications as a major area of cooperation among socialist states. The participants in the seminar exchanged experience and defined major areas of further joint improvements in the organization and planning of transport processes among the CMEA member countries.

PRAVDA REVIEW OF WEEK'S INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PM121431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Pavel Demchenko "International Review"]

[Text] Bellicose Hullabaloo

As time hurries on, events illuminate first one, then another part of the world and draw our attention now to one country, now to another. I think the reader will agree that last week that country was Libya, which has more than once found itself under the threat of U.S. blows. And this threat is not an invention of sensation-seeking journalists, a molehill blown up into a mountain.

Here are the facts: In recent days the United States has been drawing up large military forces to Libya's shores, as even official Washington spokesmen have declared. Thus the Pentagon told journalists that the aircraft carrier "Coral Sea" has been sent there from Italy, with four squadrons of F-18 fighter-bombers on board. It is accompanied by two cruisers, two destroyers, and two frigates. The aircraft carrier group is reinforced by a large number of combat aircraft and 1,800 Marines. At the same time the aircraft carrier "America," which is in Norfolk (Virginia), was given the order to be prepared to go to the Mediterranean. A similar order was given to the Battleship "Iowa."

I will also cite some curious remarks in THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, which illustrate the situation which has prevailed in recent days in the ruling echelons of the U.S. capital: "While President Reagan was on vacation in California after Christmas, his military strategists were working around the clock, choosing possible targets for bombings in Libya -- from antiaircraft batteries to oil refineries. The elaboration of the possible options by the military led to the compiling of emergency plans for the bombing of Libya by B-52 planes based in North Dakota, Air Force F-111 bombers based in Britain, and Naval F-18 bombers based on the aircraft carrier 'Coral Sea' in the Mediterranean."

As we can see, matters have gone pretty far: In the words of the same newspaper, they were only waiting for the order to make a "surprise strike." No order has yet followed, but everything remains ready for its fulfillment.

The pretext for the latest anti-Libyan flareup in Washington was provided by accusations that Libya is supposedly a base for the terrorists who blew up the offices of the Israeli airline El Al in Rome and Vienna 27 December last year. As a result of the explosions 19 people, including 5 Americans, were killed and more than 120 wounded. Naturally, there is no justification for such vandalism, or for the hijacking of planes, the kidnapping of diplomats, or attacks on tourists, journalists, and sportsmen. Terrorism, whatever form it takes, should be roundly condemned and eradicated. At the recent UN General Assembly session a special resolution was adopted on this question, for which the Soviet delegation voted. You would think there could be no two opinions here. The international community spoke out quite clearly on this question.

But it is one thing to combat individual or group terrorism, and quite another for a great power like the United States to engage in aggression against a sovereign state or a show of military might. This inevitably has serious international consequences. Moreover an analysis of events leads inevitably to the view that the explosions at Vienna and Rome airports were only the pretext, the propaganda cover for calls for Libya to be "punished": they are trying to use the banditry of individuals as cover for state terrorism.

Who Does Not Like Libya, and Why

If you look at the chronology of the military blackmail against Libya, it becomes clear that it began to grow long before the tragic explosions in Rome and Vienna. Ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet received the order to approach Libya's shores and conduct maneuvers there more than a month ago, and even then representatives of the U.S. Administration were attacking that country. They accused it of strengthening its air defence, you see -- in other words, of installing antiaircraft missiles on its own territory. It turns out that from the Pentagon's viewpoint this was a challenge to U.S. vital interests: U.S. military aircraft could lose the opportunity of flying wherever they like, many thousands of kilometers away from the United States. That is what comes of imperial ambitions and the desire to regard the Near East and the whole of the Mediterranean as your own patrimony, your own backyard.

The foreign policy department of the Libyan Jamahiriyah quite justifiably replied to Washington: "If the U.S. Administration protests in connection with the Jamahiriyah's acquisition of antiaircraft missiles which are used purely for defensive purposes, the Libyan people protest the fact that the United States has long-range missiles, military aircraft, and a navy with which it threatens other peoples' security, destabilizes their situation, imposes blockades on them, and makes them live in constant fear. In expressing this tendency, which dominates U.S. policy, the United States is behaving as though it had the right to acquire offensive means in order to attack others, and at the same time protesting when others acquire the means of defense against U.S. aggression."

If we recall events of just the last few years, it is not difficult to come to the conclusion that Libya indeed had an urgent need to strengthen its air defense. On 19 August 1981 U.S. fighters, taking off from the aircraft carrier "Nimitz," shot down two Libyan patrol planes over the Gulf of Sidra. In October 1982 an aircraft from the U.S. 6th Fleet appeared in the region of the city of Banghazi. In July 1984 four U.S. aircraft invaded Libyan airspace. And we are not even mentioning the naval maneuvers which are held annually or even several times a year, with the participation of combat aircraft, literally on the edge of Libyan territorial waters.

However, the United States has long "had it in for" Libya and its leader M. al-Qadhdhafi. After World War II the biggest U.S. air base in Africa and the Near East -- Wheelus Field -- was located on that country's territory. In 1970, soon after the elimination of the monarchy, they had to close the base, and then the property of foreign -- among them American -- oil companies operating in Libya was partially or wholly nationalized. The Western press numbers the loss of the Libyan bridgehead, like the collapse of the Shah's regime in Iran, the ignominious flight of the Marines from Lebanon, and Al-Sadat's departure from the political arena, among the biggest defeats for U.S. policy in the region. Being a part of the Near East and the Arab world, Libya resolutely criticizes U.S. policy, the U.S.-Israeli alliance, and the so-called "Camp David accords," which led in 1979 to the conclusion of a "peace treaty" between Egypt and Israel.

Incidentally, relations between Libya and Egypt, and with a number of other Arab countries, are fairly complicated. Passions sometimes become overheated, and the idea of "teaching a lesson" to obstinate Libya through the Arabs themselves, and in particular the Egyptians, has repeatedly been put forward in the U.S. press. Similar calculations have now been made, to some extent. On the eve of the new year, reports appeared on the sending of Egyptian troops to the Libyan border. But Cairo assessed this information as a fabrication. And when a real threat of invasion hung over Libya, Egypt, like Syria, Algeria, Kuwait, Sudan, and other Arab states, expressed solidarity with it.

By all appearances, Washington has not succeeded in involving the West European countries in the anti-Libyan campaign -- not even the NATO allies. Many of them -- the FRG, Spain, Greece, Canada, Britain, and Switzerland -- have stated that they will not join in the economic sanctions against Libya announced by President Reagan 7 January. A sober evaluation of the situation and a realistic view of events prevails. Unfortunately, a similar approach cannot be seen in Washington. The White House incumbent's words that "further steps will be taken" are assessed by many as a hint that the United States has no intention of confining itself to economic sanctions and is not renouncing the use of military force.

Journalists are asking: What could this mean? A brief U.S. Air Force strike against certain targets, a landing by the Marines? They do not exclude the possibility of the Israelis doing the "dirty work" for the United States. One threat after another is coming out of Tel Aviv too at present. Prime Minister S. Peres stated that Israel will not leave "unpunished" either the activation of the guerrillas in southern Lebanon or the events at Vienna and Rome airports. As usual, it accuses the Palestinians and their allies of everything. The Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM believes that "Washington and Tel Aviv have reached an accord on strikes by Israeli aircraft against Palestinian camps and other targets on the pretext of 'combating terrorism.' The main targets for air raids have been selected in Libya, Sudan, North Yemen, Syria, and Al-Biqa' Valley in Lebanon."

The Soviet Union has condemned in the most resolute way the hostile anti-Libyan campaign launched by the United States and Israel and the economic sanctions and ostentatious military preparations. "Soviet leadership circles," the TASS statement says, "expect that a sound understanding of the realities will prevail in the United States, that it will seriously consider the dangerous consequences which could result from the continuation of their policy with regard to the sovereign Libyan state, and that not only will they themselves display the restraint which the peoples of the world expect of them, but that they will also take in hand their partner Israel, which has overstepped the mark."

Prospects for Cooperation

A Japanese television commentator said the other day that the Land of the Rising Sun is now experiencing a real boom in interest in the Soviet Union. This fact is reflected in items in the Japanese press, which is publishing many commentaries, reports, and interviews on Japanese-Soviet relations. The capital's newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN, explaining the reasons for this phenomena, comes to this conclusion: "Improving relations with the USSR is one of our country's most important policy tasks for the new year. In view of the results of the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting, we would like this year to be the starting point for the establishment of ties with the USSR."

Prime Minister Y. Nakasone spoke in a similar vein at his New Year press conference, while Foreign Minister S. Abe described the forthcoming Soviet-Japanese consultations in Tokyo as a "new beginning." Here the point is not only that such consultations at the level of foreign ministers have not taken place for a long time. In recent years there has been a certain slump in relations between our countries. Thus, for instance, the progressive development of Soviet-Japanese trade first slowed down, then even began to decrease. The result: In the seventies, Japan ranked first or second in the USSR's foreign trade with developed capitalist states, but in 1984 it had fallen to sixth place. The picture is much the same in other spheres.

The main reason for this is the following in the wake of U.S. policy and Japan's participation in the "economic sanctions" proclaimed by Washington. As was to be expected, the "sanctions" did not do any substantial damage to the Soviet Union, but Japanese firms lost major orders.

A number of other unfriendly acts were also carried out: Official circles zealously fanned the so-called problem of the "northern territories," in other words territorial claims against the USSR; the stationing of U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers at Misawa air base began; Tokyo did not respond to Soviet initiatives like the proposal to conclude a treaty on the nonuse of force and hold talks on confidence-building measures in the Far East, and so forth. At the United Nations, as a rule Japanese diplomacy supported the U.S. delegation, which by no means helped to alleviate the international situation.

All this led to a situation where relations between our countries are not appropriate to their political weight in world affairs or their economic potential. And this in spite of the existence of such favorable factors as geographical proximity and the complementary structures of the foreign trade of the USSR and Japan. For instance, our country has an interest in the accelerated economic development of Siberia and the Far East, while Japanese firms want to diversify their sources of raw materials and energy. Moreover they have recently encountered considerable difficulties in selling their products on capitalist markets. Real "trade wars" are breaking out between them and the United States, first in steel, then in motor vehicles, then in electronics.

The Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva gave a unique impetus to official circles and representatives of business and the broad public in Japan. Voices were raised more loudly against such close linkage with the United States and in favor of the country's adoption of autonomous, independent decisions, which will increase its international prestige and give it the opportunity to play an active part in the normalization of the Far East situation.

Although anti-Soviet tendencies can still be clearly detected, interest in the development of relations with the USSR has grown. This is shown, for instance, by the following fact cited by the newspaper MAINICHI. "Some 500 companies have already expressed a desire to take part in the Japanese specialized exhibition which is opening in Moscow after a 10-year break, and this is considerably higher than the initial indications. The ballyhoo over this exhibition is so great that the area assigned to the exhibition is being urgently increased." Summarizing many facts, the newspaper believes that "now is a very favorable moment for the improvement of Japanese-Soviet relations."

Indeed, the moment should not be lost. "We are in favor," M.S. Gorbachev stated at the recent USSR Supreme Soviet session, "of improving relations with Japan, and are sure that this is a real possibility."

But in order to give living meaning to these relations, political will and concrete actions are needed. The Soviet Union proceeds on the basis that the expansion of bilateral ties with Japan, as with other states, promotes the general improvement of the international climate on both a regional and a worldwide scale.

ZAGLADIN VIEWS 1985 INTER-EUROPEAN LINKS

AU081058 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Jan 86 pp 1, 6

[Interview given by Professor Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of CPSU Central Committee International Department, to RABOTNICHESKO DELO correspondent Atanas Atanasov in Moscow at start of 1986: "Europe Speaks of Hope"]

[Text] During the first days of the New Year, Professor Vadim Zagladin received our Moscow correspondent Atanas Atanasov. The most important signs of the past year of 1985 in Europe were the topics of the conversation.

It is enough for us to recall certain of the most crucial events in order to assess the great significance of 1985. First let us take the socialist countries -- there has been a perceptible development in our interrelations and in our cooperation in different spheres. It seems to me that one cannot cite any other year in which four summit meetings of our leaders have taken place: in Moscow in March, in Warsaw in April, in Sofia in October, and in Prague in November. These meetings were effective, called for different reasons; but they were all concerned with important problems and demonstrated the unity and cohesion between our parties, countries, and peoples. And this will certainly continue to be so next year and in the future.

New elements have emerged in East-West relations. Here the most significant event was undoutbtedly meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, which gave rise to what we call "the spirit of Geneva." So one can say a lot about Europe from the international viewpoint, but the main lines were: the dynamic intensification of the interaction between the socialist countries and the well-known positive steps in East-West relations. This also exerted an effect upon the interrelations between the two parts of Europe.

As a starting point, one should perhaps point out that in the western part of the continent, 1985 has marked a certain development in political thinking. Notwithstanding the fact that the development of the individual countries is not proceeding uniformly, as a whole it can be said that the trend of the growth of the conservative forces which was marked following the last period has now "frozen" to a certain degree. Moreover, the forces of the left, although their development is also very complex, are becoming perceptibly more active. I have in mind the communists and social democrats -- the representatives of democratic movements, whose activity has considerably increased. This is linked not only with the foreign policy trends of the individual countries, but also with the foreign policy aspects of development.

In 1985 there was a more pronounced tendency among the Western states toward working out more independent policies. In most cases those who speak about independent policies (and they belong to varying political currents) do not have in mind that Europe should break with NATO and should renounce the alliance with the United States. But, within the framework of this alliance, they are saying that a new approach is essential, one which might to a greater degree guarantee the interests of Western Europe. And these interests are suffering in many respects as a result of Washington's policy. This is true both with regard to security (which incidentally has not been strengthened, but rather the reverse) and also in the economic sphere. The "economic war" between the United States and Western Europe has practically become permanent. For this reason, on a number of issues certain Western European countries which form part of the EEC have adopted a "more special" position. For example, with regard to the events in Central America, the position of the Western European countries states that the events are a result of internal processes and not of foreign interference, as asserted by the White House. In contrast to the United States, the states support a political settlement of the problems existing there. The position of the Western European states also differs from the U.S. position with regard to a number of problems in South Africa and the Middle East; and, moreover, great interest has arisen in Western Europe throughout the year in relations with the socialist countries.

Here, of course, differing standpoints do exist. In Western Europe there are a number of figures who dream about reexamining the results of World War II. They talk about European unity, but in this imply something different -- the elimination of socialism on our continent. In very many cases, however, the political forces in Western Europe, or at least the leftwing and centrist ones, are striving to develop relations with Eastern Europe, underlining their necessity from the viewpoint of preserving peace and of mutual economic benefit.

Last year our countries did much in order to activate inter-European links -- both political and economic. I would like to stress, for example, that Comrades Todor Zhivkov and Nicolae Ceausescu recently made the declaration and appeal for changing the Balkans into a zone free from chemical weapons. The realization of this initiative would be of great significance. Of course, things are not simple, even if we just take the position of Turkey. In spite of this, the initiative is an important step which points out the possible directions for moving ahead. A little earlier, the GDR and CSSR came out with a similar proposal -- for the creation of a chemical-weapons-free zone in the center of Europe. It is characteristic that these proposals have still not received a final answer. A direct rejection is difficult, but agreement is not allowed by the NATO rules, and even more by the interests of certain circles in the FRG itself.

Discussions are also being held on other subjects between the socialist countries and the FRG and other states of Western Europe. One should not fail to value the significance, for example, of Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski's visit to Paris, or the importance of the joint document drawn up by the PZPR [Polish United Workers Party] and SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] on matters relating to measures for military trust. In a word, our countries are increasing their activities.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, we attach great significance, as stated in the draft new edition of the CPSU Program, to relations with Western Europe. Such an approach is conditioned by reasons of a historical nature, as well as by reasons dictated by modern events. It must not be forgotten that both world wars originated in Europe. And what about European security? Can one really say that without it the security of the individual countries of the continent is possible? And last of all, in our view the states of the two halves of Europe have much in common in their traditions and culture and many common economic interests, as well as having opportunities for fruitful, mutually beneficial cooperation. We all realize that our common interest is great, and it must be realized in practical deeds. Incidentally, the word "must" is not quite accurate, because this interest is actually already being realized in practice. As an example I can cite the visit of Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev to France and his meetings and conversations with President Francois Mitterrand, which renewed and raised to a higher level, if you like, the old tradition of Soviet-French links, the fruitfulness of which for both countries (and not only for them) has long been proved. Useful contacts were also made with other states, for example, with the FRG. Here problems do exist, since the policies of the Bonn government on such questions as the deployment of the American nuclear missiles, and now also the U.S. space plans, do not create favorable ground for the development of mutual links. Nevertheless, there is a striving in both countries toward positive development. For the USSR and for all fraternal countries, the striving for peaceful, good-neighborly cooperation with the FRG is not opportunism; we really are interested in this.

There were also other features during the past year. For example, for the first time a Soviet parliamentary delegation visited Spain. Now the relations with this country are good, and visits at the higher level are planned.

As a characteristic feature of 1985, one may clearly also point to yet another circumstance -- the fact that relations, so to speak, of a common European nature are beginning to develop. Last year the CEMA Secretariat continued its efforts aimed at establishing relations with the EEC. At present there is no response to the CEMA's latest approach, but the leanings toward developing relations between the two economic organizations are intensifying. We noticed this, among other things, in the course of a new event which occurred in December last year -- the visit to the USSR of a delegation from the Social Democrat group in the European Parliament. Interesting discussions took place, during which similar views were expressed on questions of security, and we regard these contacts as a beginning for more lasting ties with the Western European Parliament.

In brief, 1985 has left quite a few positive traces in the relations between East and West. But, as is always the case in politics, what has already been achieved becomes a starting point for the future. This is precisely our own approach to our work.

What do we expect from 1986? First of all, it should be stressed that the old year has bequeathed to the new the spirit of Geneva and certain new features in the European political climate. We would all naturally wish 1986 to be marked by an expansion and deepening of what has been achieved. The countries of the fraternal socialist community have quite definitely focused their political will and strivings to ensure that events should move forward precisely in this direction. At the session of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member-states in Sofia, a document was adopted which comprises a unique program for peace in Europe. For this program to be implemented would mean a serious step forward on the path toward general European peace, that is, world peace.

Of course, a great deal will depend on how relations develop between the USSR and the United States, or, more precisely, how the United States will fulfill the agreements achieved at Geneva. But, on the other hand, the positions of Europe, particularly Western Europe, are of no little importance. Because Europe can contribute significantly to progress along the Moscow-Washington line, but also can obstruct such progress. We would like 1986 to demonstrate the support of Western Europe as a whole for the trends toward detente.

This year will be a special one for our countries. Congresses of our parties will be held which will discuss both international problems and the problems of internal development during the next 5-year plan, as well as prospects up to the next millenium. Of course, the internal development of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, for example, interests our peoples most of all, but we have in mind that international development also depends to a great extent on the successful advance of the socialist community. If the plans mapped out by our parties are successfully fulfilled, and I think they will be, then there will be an inevitable favorable effect upon the whole international climate and naturally, first and foremost, on the climate of our old continent. I would like to conclude by wishing new successes to the Bulgarian people in socialist construction and in the further comprehensive ascent of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. I also use the opportunity to send New Year greetings to the readers of RABOTNICHESKO DELO and to wish that 1986 will be a peaceful, successful, and prosperous year.

NEPSZABADSAG INTERVIEW WITH ZAGLADIN CITED

LD121824 Budapest MTI in English 1709 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Budapest, January 11 (MTI) -- Saturday's NEPSZABADSAG carries a full-page interview with Vadim Zagladin, first deputy head of the foreign affairs department of the CPSU CC, under the title "Where Does the World Proceed After Geneva."

Replying to a question, Zagladin states that Soviet foreign policy starts from the realities of the present world. Considering the character of existing and now emerging weapons, particularly the space weapons, "war is a nonsense," it might be unleashed by irresponsible forces but it would lead to a global catastrophe. [sentence as received] "Aware of this, the Soviet leadership made genuine and responsible steps to break the course of events, and achieve a turn from the arms race to arms reduction, from confrontation to detente." It is another reality that the present world is multipolar. "Of course, in the social sense the world is bipolar: divided into two social systems. In political sense, however, the case is not that."

Although the Soviet-American relations [words indistinct] part, "We are convinced, at variance with the U.S. standpoint, that it does not provide any special right for the two great powers, but lays enormous responsibility upon them."

On the relations of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries Zagladin says that "we are constructing the new society together, each of us in its own country, taking its own conditions into consideration. Therefore cooperation, team-work and exchange of experiences between the socialist countries are indispensable conditions of success." Zagladin emphasizes that "the strengthening of the many-sided, coordinated activity of our states is an important condition of the preservation and stabilization of peace."

Concerning the Geneva talks of Gorbachev and Reagan, Zagladin points it out that "it was an event of historic importance. However, the genuine significance of the achievements can only be assessed on the basis of the concrete deeds of the two parties. Nowadays there are frequent statements in the United States on peace, disarmament, and the improvement of Soviet-American relations. As [words indistinct] deeds are concerned, the majority of them are not in accordance with the statements, more exactly, they are in contradiction with them.

"Since Geneva the atmosphere of Soviet-American relations, and, in general, the international atmosphere improved somewhat. I am of the view, however, that it would be a dangerous error to exaggerate the importance of this improvement," Zagladin said.

"The Soviet Union seeks for normal, good-neighborly relations with the United States, for peaceful cooperation in all fields where it is possible. For the time being it does not succeed. It is not the Soviet party that can be blamed for the failure." Zagladin stresses that "it is obvious in the present moment that the first step on the road of detente should be the elimination of the arms race. It would be an act of great importance if the United States gave its consent to a moratorium on nuclear tests."

"The development of East-West contacts, including economic relations, may also promote a return to detente, but we have no reason for exaggerating the role of such contacts. All countries, small, medium-size and large, can and must contribute to the cause of detente. As far as our countries belonging to the socialist community are concerned, coordinated foreign policy is the most important thing."

Zagladin states that the Soviet foreign policy "attributes utmost importance to the development of relations with all countries. However, Europe plays a special, great role in Soviet policy." Zagladin recalls that "the period of detente showed the great possibilities and fine perspectives of all-European cooperation, which must be fully exploited. In our opinion the interests of the capitalist west and the socialist east coincide in some respects."

Zagladin states that the West European countries show an evident endeavour to gain a greater freedom of action within the NATO. In his opinion it reflects economic and political contradictions between the USA and Western Europe. It gives cause for cautiousness, however, that the FRG and Britain agreed to take part in the SDI programme.

As to the COCOM restrictions, the "United States has the aim of slowing down and narrowing commercial, economic, technical and scientific exchange between the two parts of the European Continent rather than preventing the transfer of military technologies to the East (as a matter of fact, our countries had proved that they can solve any task concerning their defence)," Vadim Zagladin said to NEPSZABADSAG.

WORLD REACTION TO U.S. STANCE ON LIBYA NOTED

LD131831 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The situation in the Middle East and in the Mediterranean area remains tense through the fault of the United States and Israel. Here are dispatches sent in by our correspondents.

Vladimir Gerasichev reports from New York. In the United States the anti-Libyan campaign has acquired the nature of a hysteria. Ignoring Libya's official statements that it had nothing to do with the tragic events at Rome and Vienna airports, the Reagan administration persists in its crude attacks on Libya, keeping an armada of warships and planes off its coasts. The progressive public believes that Washington has resorted to direct military blackmail in order to scare not only Libya, but other Arab countries as well.

Israel joined America's campaign of military threats. It directed its attacks against Syria and Lebanon. Andrey Popov reports from Damascus. Syria issued an official statement. The activity of American militarists, the statement says, has nothing in common with the struggle against terrorism. Its goal is to intimidate Arab nations to force them to give up their struggle for sovereign rights. Tel Aviv acts in concert with Washington. The threat of Israeli Prime Minister Peres to launch acts of aggression against Syria when and where he finds it necessary gave rise to indignation in Syria.

And here's a dispatch from our Middle East correspondent, Leonid Rassadin. Israeli militarists are intensifying terror in southern Lebanon. They shell population centers there, stage mass round-ups and harrass civilians in the occupied strip bordering on Israel.

Now what's the world's reaction to American and Israeli acts of aggression?

From Tokyo Pavel Potapov reports that Japan's democratic press condemned the United States for its plans to unleash an armed aggression against sovereign Libya. Washington's behavior, periodicals said, violates international law and the United Nations Charter.

Our Madrid correspondent, Valentin Corkayev, reports that the Spanish Government does not favor the use of economic sanctions for political purposes. Such was Madrid's official reply to Washington's request that it join the anti-Libyan boycott. Local analysts have said the United States President will find it hard to convince people of Libya's involvement in the acts of terror at Rome and Vienna airport, particularly after the statements of the Italian and Austrian ministries of the interior that they had no evidence of Libya's involvement.

The general secretary of the Polish-Arab Friendship Society, [name indistinct], qualified America's anti-Libyan blackmail as gross arbitrariness. We demand, he said in an interview for our Warsaw correspondent, Vasiliy Lesovik, that the kindling of war hysteria in the Mediterranean be stopped.

Our Caracas correspondent, (Yuriy Sayev) reports that Washington's military and economic blackmail against Libya has given rise to anger among the Latin American public. Senator (Jose Santo Ramhel) said the United States, in its attempts to pose as a champion of freedom and civilization, actually acts as a real terrorist.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES SOUTHERN LEBANON

LD140607 Moscow TASS in English 0554 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 14 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev reports: Responding to a request by the government of Lebanon, the U.N. Security Council began discussing the highly tense situation in the south of that Arab country.

Lebanon's ambassador to the United Nations Rashid Fakhuri complained that Israeli occupation troops were escalating their aggression and stepping up their outrages and repressions against people living in his country's southern areas, who were bearing the brunt of Israel's arbitrariness as they were being daily subjected to violence, humiliation and terror. Israel was also making intrusions into Lebanon's air space and territorial waters every day, with its policies aiming to frustrate all efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement and stabilize the situation in the Middle East and thus jeopardizing universal peace and security. Fakhuri urged the Security Council to adopt effective measures to cut short the Israeli aggression and make sure that the Lebanese state's sovereignty and territorial integrity be fully restored.

Delegates from Libya, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Madagascar, Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria and other countries said that Lebanon's example had served to reveal with utmost clarity the substance of the policy of state-backed terrorism, which was maintained by Israel with U.S. support against Arab states and peoples.

Syria's permanent representative to the United Nations Diya' Allah al-Fattah, said the Arabs cannot but hold the United States responsible for the continuing tragedy of the Middle East and the ongoing aggravation of the situation there. He said the aim of U.S. policy in the Middle East was to force Arab nations to their knees. That was why, he explained, the United States was giving all-round and unqualified backing to the Israeli aggressor acting as the vehicle of the American policy of hegemony in the Middle East.

V.S. Safronchuk, first deputy permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, said imperialist forces did not like it that Lebanon had refused to become an Israeli protectorate and opted instead for an independent path of development. He pointed to U.S. aggressive quarters' similar policies against other sovereign states refusing to obey their dictates, including Nicaragua and Libya. All those cases, Safronchuk said, were practical manifestations of the "neoglobalism" theory which had been invented in Washington to justify its hegemonist policies. In the Soviet Union, he stressed, it was expected that a sober awareness of the existing realities would prevail in the United States, that it would weigh the dangerous consequences to which the continuation of such policies could lead and that it would not only display restraint itself, as the peoples expected it to do, but would also take in hand its overweening partner, Israel.

A draft resolution submitted to the Security Council demanded that Israel withdraw its troops from Lebanese territory back to internationally recognized borders immediately and without any conditions, and denounced the occupiers' reprisals against civilians in south Lebanon as violating the norms and principles of international law and posing an obstacle to restoring peace and security in Lebanon. The draft stressed the need of unfailing respect for the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Lebanese state.

Confident of being supported by its overseas partner, however, Israel kept stubbornly refusing to heed the demands of the international community. Speaking at the Security Council meeting, the Israeli representative declared impudently that Tel Aviv would go on doing what it deemed necessary.

U.S. POLICY, ACTIONS THREATEN MIDEAST NATIONS

Call to 'International Brigandage'

LD142238 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 14 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] At a time when the anti-Libyan hullaballoo in Washington had already reached a fatal point, President Reagan announced at a press conference that 126 acts of terrorism were prevented last year by the valiant U.S. special services. The figure of 126 has become the sensation of the day. Although the president refused to go into further detail, it was clear to everyone that Libyan machinations and the Libyan leadership were, of course, behind all these acts of terrorism.

Now we have a new sensation. U.S. Department of Justice representatives have announced that not a single one of the 126 acts to which the head of the White House referred is connected with attacks by Libyans on Americans. Not a single one! Such is the information from the U.S. Department of Justice. But if this is so, what remains of the noisy and malicious attacks by the United States on Libya? What is their legal and moral foundation?

To speak in a situation like this of U.S. policy on Libya being extremely stupid, as does the London SUNDAY TIMES, means saying almost nothing. It is not only stupid, it is openly provocative.

We have already spoken in quite some detail about the over-restrained and skeptical attitude of U.S. allies to calls to join the anti-Libyan crusade. I will not repeat myself. There are some things however, that simply stagger one. How would you, for example, regard a situation in which the political leaders of one country in an open and businesslike manner discuss the question of whether or not to kill the head of another state, what method of killing to use, whether or not to send paid killers to other countries to physically do away with objectionable persons, and whether or not sovereign countries or simply individual parts of such countries where there may be concentrations of terrorist organizations or organizations that are just disagreeable to Washington should be bombed?

Indeed it is precisely this, precisely such questions that are being discussed in the U.S. capital today. They are being discussed in an open and businesslike fashion -- with serene cynicism I would say. Just listen! In a special statement, U.S. Senator Metzenbaum demands the immediate organization of the murder of Al-Qadhdhafi. No! This is impossible, a U.S. State Department spokesman retorts to him. The murder of leaders of other states is not part of U.S. policy. Former U.S. Defense Secretary Clark Clifford expressed the hope -- and I quote -- that our, that is the U.S. intelligence services are making gigantic efforts to infiltrate hostile organizations in all parts of the world and to annihilate the criminals. In every country we can bribe people for these purposes, the former secretary writes. If a certain number of people are physically exterminated in this, this can only be of benefit. When one remembers that any national liberation movement in any part of the world is called terrorist by Washington, you can well imagine what the former secretary is talking about, for this is a most open, outspoken call to international brigandage.

According to the French MATIN the U.S. secretary of state is keeping a finger on the trigger. Despite certain assertions, the White House has not, to all appearances, abandoned plans for a military solution to its dispute with Libya. The concentration of U.S. naval vessels continues off the coast of that country. Today it became known that a new formation consisting of six U.S. combat vessels led by the aircraft carrier Saratoga is hastily redeploying from the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea.

Comments on Whitehead Trip

LD141826 Moscow TASS in English 1802 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 14 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, leaves on January 14 on a tour which will take him to Canada and some West European countries, says an official report of the U.S. Department of State. He will hold in those countries consultations on the problem of the United States economic sanctions against Libya and will try to persuade the governments of those countries to take "concrete steps" in that direction.

What are these "problems of economic sanctions" against Libya that arose between Washington and its partners? The point is that Western Europeans are in no hurry to join in Washington's new and extremely dangerous undertaking in the Middle East. The essence of the State Department's diplomatic moves is the sending of an emissary to bring outright pressure on governments of countries, the United States partners in NATO, to force them to follow obediently in the wake of the anti-Libyan policy of the present U.S. Administration, in other words to resort to political pressing.

The U.S. Administration has these days been clamouring noisily about terriorism and terrorists, while it resorts itself to openly terroristic actions, with the only difference that the actions of terrorists are actions of individuals or groups, while terrorism practiced by Washington has been made state policy implemented on orders from the United States top authorities on a global scale.

Without any evidence, the Washington leaders make a recourse to actions against Libya which cannot be assessed otherwise than openly provocative and terroristic. Imposing the so-called "economic sanctions" Washington does not preclude a "military version", either, as the U.S. press writes. And what is the reason? None at all. They in Washington got accustomed to sabre rattling and showing strength on any pretext.

And Western Europeans cannot fail to realize where they are being pushed by the U.S. Administration in the Middle East. The U.S. Administration wishes to set Western Europeans against Arabs while at the same time trying to pass its anti-Libyan actions for "collective measures." Whitehead's coming trip is just another attempt to compel the United States allies to join Washington in its anti-Arab policy.

U.S. Policy Lacks Support

OW150031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Jan 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; commentary by Boris Parkhomenko]

[Text] The United States is continuing to fan a frenzied campaign against Libya. Here is our television news commentary:

[Parkhomenko] Hello, comrades. Contrary to White House expectations, the idea of an economic blockade and trade sanctions against Libya turned out to be extremely unpopular among U.S. allies in Europe. I shall only cite the latest reports by foreign press agencies. Howe, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, told the U.S. ambassador in London that his government sees no connection between the fight against international terrorism and economic sanctions against a sovereign state.

The FRG Government also deemed measures adopted by the United States contrary to the principles of international trade. Craxi, head of the Italian cabinet, announced that support for U.S. sanctions cannot be taken without being detrimental to the coordinated economy of Common Market countries. Finally, Fabius, the prime minister of France, unambiguously called U.S. politics in relation to Libya an attempt to carve up the sea.

Not having received any support from its allies, the United States nevertheless did not abandon its anti-Libyan campaign. The State Department, for instance, demanded that all U.S. citizens -- about 1,500 -- leave Libya. This appeal was received without enthusiasm and therefore, disobedience was threatened with a fine and even imprisonment. Similar punishments will be meted out to those Americans who continue to have trade, business, or even personal contacts with Libyan citizens or organizations.

The White House has also decided to freeze Libyan assets in U.S. banks. All these decisions can be attributed to the realm of the absurd, if not to the obviously discernable pose usually adopted by the United States -- that of the universal moralist, unilaterally taking on itself the right to condemn and punish. Blinkers of neoglobalism -- in essence the role of world gendarme -- prevent the United States from realistically assessing the futility and unprincipled nature of its Libyan policy.

'Anti-Arab Strategy' by U.S.

LD122132 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 12 Jan 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by APN political observer Spartak Beglov]

[Text] Hello, comrades! No sooner has the New Year holiday died down than military alarm sirens have begun to sound over the Mediterranean Sea. The main surprise prepared by the U.S. Administration for the peoples of the planet turned out to be in complete contradiction to Washington's pre-New Year messages of peace. It is now more than 10 days since the sword of U.S. military threats was raised over Libya. The United States system of bases, from Norfolk in the State of Virginia to Sigonella on the island of Sicily has been put on combat alert. The U.S. has declared a state of emergency [chrezvychaynoye polozheniye]. President Reagan has introduced economic sanctions that prohibit economic trade links between the United States and Libya.

The terrorist acts which had been committed at the international airports of Vienna and Rome at the end of December were chosen as a pretext for this rabid anti-Libyan campaign. There are lots of versions as to who stood behind the terrorists. But even State Department spokesmen admit that there is no direct evidence proving Tripoli's involvement in the acts.

The special report issued by Washington on this question is seen unanimously by international observers to be a groundless rehash of old conjectures. The Austrian foreign minister stated that the investigations conducted in Vienna have yielded no evidence whatsoever that the traces left by the latest terrorist actions lead to Libya. It is stressed again and again in the the official statements of the Libyan Jamahiriyah: Our country condemns and rejects any acts threatening the life of completely innocent people. Washington is using the struggle with terrorism as a pretext for military reprisal. The people of Libya declare their resolve to defend their independence. The country is in a state of full combat alert to rebuff aggression. Mass anti-American demonstrations have swept the whole of Libya.

In adopting economic sanctions and other measures that trample on international law and the UN Charter, the U.S. Administration has not hidden the fact that it is counting on the reciprocity of its allies.

However, the West European governments have essentially unanimously refused to take part in the U.S. economic boycott of Libya. The reserved position of the West Europeans is quite explicable. More than one act of discrimination by Washington has already struck painfully at their interests. Western Europe has close economic ties with Libya. The countries of the West, as the observers stress, cannot also ignore their own interest in improving relations with the Arab world.

London's THE TIMES recommended that England's foreign secretary urgently call on the Amricans to avoid sabre-rattling in the Mediterranean Sea. The Government of Greece, having categorically rejected the use of economic sanctions, has expressed its deep concern with respect to the dangerous concentration of U.S. Armed Forces in the immediate vicinity of Libya's borders, and has suggested discussing the situation which has arisen within the organization of the EEC.

There is no doubt that behind Washington's anti-Libyan action there is a strategic design which is spearheaded against the entire Arab East. Progress that had begun to show of late in a settlement of the inter-communal conflict in Lebanon and the mounting movement for a political settlement of the Middle East conflict through participation of all sides concerned, including that within the framework of an international conference under UN auspices -- all were obviously not to the liking of the United States and of its "strategic partner" -- Israel.

The Arab states have not been slow to express their solidarity with Libya. In opposition to the aggressive actions of the United States and Isreal, the League of Arab Countries and the Organization of African Unity have spoken out. The Islamic Conference organization has subjected the actions of the United States to severe criticism, this includes 40 member-states. Syria has confirmed its readiness to give support to fraternal Libya in relation to any aggression with all the means at its disposal.

In the enormous stream of reactions and opinions in connection with new deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, one more important thought is being expressed. Many observers -- the Indian newspaper PATRIOT writes in particular about this -- rightfully see in the U.S. Israeli action an attempt to push the Palestinian problem further into the background, and to substitute for it the so-called problem of the struggle against terrorism, although those guilty of an outburst of terrorism are primarily the ones who have elevated terror against whole peoples to the class of their state policy. The first victims of this policy are the Palestinian Arab people. The Palestinian problem is a wound in the Middle East that will not heal over; it bleeds constantly. Thirty-eight years have now passed since hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs, as a result of Israeli aggression, were forced to leave their homelands. They continue to wait and believe that the policy of state terrorism of which they are a victim will be brought to an end and that justice will triumph.

Pressure Put on OPEC

LD150105 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Commentary by economist Andrey Nesterinko: "Aggression on Libya and the OPEC"]

[Text] According to news agencies dispatches, the voice of the OPEC member-countries is being heard louder and louder every day amid the wide-scale international protests against the campaign being waged on Libya under the leadership of the United States. All the OPEC member-countries have strongly denounced the U.S. Israeli campaigns and U.S. economic sanctions against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. Andrey Nesterinko says:

I wish to point out here the most important reasons that the OPEC member-countries are adopting this decisive stand. First, the Libyan Jamahiriyah is one of the principal implementers of the policy of active confrontation waged by OPEC against the actions of the imperialist oil monopolies. This attitude has caused Libya to become the target of imperialist plots and intrigues.

Alienating Libya from the OPEC member-countries' struggle for survival would weaken this organization and this is excactly what the monopolies seeking to force OPEC out of the oil markets aim to achieve. For this reason, these monopolies increase oil production outside the framework of the OPEC member-countries and refrain from signing long-term contracts with them. The governments of the United States, Britain, and other developed capitalist countries work toward this end. For example, London recently provided full freedom to the monopolies to operate in the North Sea, thereby increasing its oil production immensely. As a result of this, the West's purchases of petroleum from the OPEC member-countries dropped. We wish to point out in this context that the OPEC's share of the international oil trade has dropped from 60 percent in 1979 to 30 percent in 1985. Consequently, the OPEC member-countries have been forced to cut down the prices of their oil on several occasions and lost a large amount of revenue, which they greatly need for the implementation of their development plans.

Second, the OPEC member-countries have received with extreme caution, the U.S. freeze of the Libyan Government's financial assets. The United States has resorted to such unlawful actions for the second time. It previously acted in this way toward Iran, which is another OPEC member-country. What does this mean? It means that any OPEC country whose policy does not meet with Washington's approval will lose its financial deposits in the United States, which are estimated to total billions of dollars. True, these are things that whet the appetite of those who have no regard for international law and who adopt robbery toward other countries as a rule they apply.

Third, observers have noted that the United States has thrown part of its strategic oil stocks into the international oil markets on the eve of the current provocative campaign against Libya. This was intended, apparently, to test the system of [word indistinct] with petroleum to the black-gold consuming countries in the event of a total halt to OPEC oil exporting. This was only a warning, so to speak, to the OPEC member-countries should they decide to ban the exportation of their oil to the United States and its allies.

Naturally, the OPEC member-countries cannot remain silent about these subversive activities and hence, the reason for the special attention the OPEC member-countries attach to the grave, imperialist plot against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. It is for this reason that they add their voices to the demands of the international socialist circles for routing the intrigues against the Libyan sovereign Arab country.

Test for 'New Globalism'

LD121258 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- Libya has long been a target of vicious U.S. attacks because of its firm anti-imperialist stand and its refusal to accept the U.S.-Israeli version of settlement in the Middle East," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says today.

In the recent period, the newspaper continues, U.S. leaders have been stressing especially forcefully in their statements that in the long term American policy is oriented to diverse conflicts in the spectrum between an all-out war and universal peace. Secretary of State Shultz explained in one of his speeches that Washington did not even plan to live under conditions of absolute peace. Instead, American politicians are now discussing the concept of "new globalism" as a major discovery of our time.

Actually, this concept is the same old imperialist strategy of total intervention. "New globalism" is intended to confirm the U.S. "right" to interfere in the affairs of sovereign states on a worldwide scale, to wage undeclared wars and to conduct overt and covert subversive operations against them, and to pursue a policy of state terrorism.

So the USA is scurrying to test the concept of "new globalism" in practice, the newspaper says. Today the target is Libya while tomorrow the sights may be turned on Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Angola or other states whose independent policies are disliked by Washington.

The Soviet newspaper stresses that the Soviet Union is far from indifferent to the present-day dangerous developments in the Mediterranean. The USSR has a vital interest in continued peace in the Mediterranean, as in all the other parts of the world. It should also be pointed out, the newspaper says, that relations between the USSR and Libya are close and firm and that they rest on long-time traditions and on manifestations of deep affection and respect between the Soviet and Libyan peoples. Voicing support for the Libyan people, the Soviet Union is most resolutely condemning the hostile anti-Libyan campaign, economic sanctions and pointed war preparations against Libya. These actions can only be viewed as a threat to peace and security both in the Mediterranean and elsewhere.

GENRI EXAMINES WEINBERGER'S BACKGROUND, PHILOSOPHY

PM150926 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Jan 86 p 14

[Ernst Genri article: "Who Is Mr Weinberger?" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] This man loves appearing beneath the U.S. flag. He considers himself -- and tries to prove it to his friends -- to be the standard-bearer of the "true American spirit." But in his hands the Stars and Stripes turn into the "star wars" banner. Beneath it and not balking at any means, he is trying to assemble a space army from all the Western countries against the socialist countries and against the future.

It is indisputable that the overwhelming majority of people worldwide, the United States included, are glad that a dialogue has begun between the Soviet Union and the United States. Millions of people, thinking about Geneva, realize it is a question of life and death for whole peoples and not of some kind of diplomatic niceties. People are breathing easier.

But, there are exceptions. Across the Atlantic those who are scared and even enraged by what happened in Geneva are stirring. The most prominent of these dissatisfied people is none other than Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary and Pentagon chief. But just who and what is this figure?

Double Personality

One thing is clear above all. It would be wrong to consider Weinberger just a mouthpiece for the Pentagon military.

In fact, Weinberger is not under the generals, they are under him. His real roots are not in the military cadre environment, but deeper, in U.S. society. Weinberger is now the number one emissary for the U.S. military-industrial complex, which does not just include the military. He is a kind of double personality.

He started his career as a fashionable San Francisco attorney.

During the war he served in the intelligence arm of the staff of the extreme right-wing general, Douglas MacArthur, who later ran for president and stated in an interview which remained secret until his death that "I could have won the Korean war in 10 days at the most. I would have dropped 30-50 atom bombs."

That is still the attitude of extreme right-wingers in the United States on various questions. They cannot imagine their country's foreign policy in any other way. Weinberger is a product of this school.

It is possible that after the war these ties helped him become chairman of the Republican Party central committee in California. When Reagan took up the post of governor of California Weinberger was made director of the state's finance department; that is, he entered the future president's closest entourage.

He was a private guest in the so-called "Owls' Nest" -- a club of 400 millionaires which met weekly in a wood near San Francisco to discuss the main issues in U.S. politics. Under President Nixon, Weinberger, named director of the budget office where he would decide how much state funding was to be allocated to whom and for what purposes, gave Nixon a memorandum which even then counseled increasing rather than cutting military appropriations.

"I am a conservative and proud of it," Weinberger said of himself, gaining the sympathies of right-wingers. He did not miscalculate.

On becoming defense secretary in 1981 he made F. Carlucci, former deputy CIA chief, his deputy. Then he started praising neutron weapons, which, he solemnly stated in a newspaper article, could be delivered to Europe in a few hours in the event of an international crisis. Already he thought of Europeans as creatures of a lower order. That is worth remembering.

"I see no reason," Weinberger stressed on another occasion, "why we should not be prepared for combat actions in at least two areas at once" -- that is, on different continents and first and foremost, in Europe. Certainof his predecessors in the Pentagon decided to loudly voice such aggressive language even at critical moments. But it was not this that brought Weinberger to the peak of his career.

CIA Behind Him

Even before his appointment as defense secretary, Weinberger was vice president of the Bechtel-McCone corporation, which belongs to the Bechtel family. This family earned fabulous profits from government orders in the war years and later specialized in building air bases for the Pentagon. In 1976 and 1979-1980 it donated major sums to the Republican Party's election funds. The Bechtels' partner (and thereby Weinberger's partner, too) was J. McCone, the former CIA chief.

When McCone was appointed CIA chief the liberal New York magazine NEW REPUBLIC wrote of him: "He is typified by unbridled hatred of communism and revolutionary changes... if organizational ability and hatred of communism are all that is needed for the leader of the intelligence agency, McCone fits the bill. But that is not enough. Giving him this power is tantamount to trusting a man with bad eyesight to drive a powerful car or hiring a piano tuner with no musical ear."

The same can be said today about Weinberger himself in the post of Pentagon chief.

It is also apposite to recall that the Bechtel firm originally grew up with the help of credits from Bank of America -- the largest bank in the United States -- which is financed by five leading U.S. military monopolies.

In terms of its capital the California group has overtaken the old financial dynasties of the Rockefellers and Morgans, which have somewhat more moderate positions.

Need anything be added to the Weinberger biography? These are the people who rule the present-day United States. To a certain extent they resemble those big business oligarchs whom Jack London once described in his novel "The Iron Heel." As a politician Weinberger is a product of the dealers of the military-industrial complex; he is their man through and through. Is it accidental, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote in June 1985, that Weinberger often behaves "not like a defense secretary, but a sales agent for military subcontractors"?

That is why he has recently allowed himself to get involved in risky intrigues in Washington with a view to not only hampering peaceful Soviet-U.S. agreement, but also reminding at every turn those in the capital who need reminding about the priority of the military-industrial magnates.

Mentality as a Politician

It has been calculated that up to $800 billion a year are currently spent on military purposes in the world. The arsenals of mass destruction weapons already accumulated would suffice to destroy 58 billion people -- 12 times more people than are currently alive. What do these statistics show? The growth of military equipment or the insanity of those who are consciously expediting that growth?

They run counter to common sense. But they do not run counter to the political methodology of present-day monopoly capitalism.

The bosses of U.S. big business currently have two main incentives. First, to constantly derive unprecedented superprofits, particularly from producing mass destruction means. Second, the same forces in their deadly hatred of the socialist world are conducting preparations for barbaric aggression against it. They do this despite the fact that this policy is fraught with catastrophic consequences for all mankind. The first attitude is in line with the second. The result is the possibility of a global paroxysm. Political mentality becomes something akin to law for the bourgeois society of the day. Monopoly capital brazenly promotes the emergence of chaos and the rout of civilization, although this would affect its own countries.

We ask yet again, what is this: a policy consciously conceived by extreme anticommunists which is aimed at physically destroying the socialist world, a policy that attaches a criminal antihuman form to the historic class struggle? Or is it a natural attack of the same paroxysm which is inalienably enshrined in the heart of modern bourgeois society itself? Obviously, it is both at once.

Mr Weinberger, the intransigent opponent of the Soviet Union, is hardly capable of answering that question. The dialectics of history are a closed book to him. But the answer is provided with a vengeance by the people, who are striving to live and not to seek death in a nuclear-space hurricane.

Wienbergers do not last forever.

REAGAN VISIT TO GRENADA DEMONSTRATES 'HYPOCRISY'

LD141027 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 14 TASS -- The master of the White House is going to Grenada in February on a mission that can hardly be described as peace-making and with a purpose very far from defending the elementary rights of Grenaders. PRAVDA writes today.

Quoting American press reports, the newspaper says that the U.S. President has set himself three aims for this visit:

First, to "pay tribute" to the memory of the American servicemen who died during the rescue (read: bandit, interventionist, etc.) mission of 1983.

Secondly, to attend a ceremony to "sanctify" an airport at Point Salines which the Pentagon has finished and now intends to use to ensure U.S. military and political domination in the eastern part of the Caribbean Basin. This is going to be a big show -- ostentatious "sanctity" will, hand in hand with aggressiveness, assure the world again of its striving for "general welfare".

And to bring this "welfare" nearer there is the third aim of the President's forthcoming visit -- to knock together in the Caribbean a military alliance that could be used by Washington for carrying out its hegemonistic plans, specifically for suppressing national liberation movements in the region, Central America in particular. The master of the White House is to make a new attempt of this kind in Grenada where he intends to meet the leaders of Caribbean countries.

As we see, the U.S. President has "lofty" aims for his visit, and he is too preoccupied with them to think of the rights of Grenaders.

"The word 'pharisaism' has synonyms -- sanctimony and hypocrisy. It is these aspects of the White House's policy that the February visit by its master to Grenada will demonstrate," the newspaper writes in conclusion.

POSSIBILITY OF HART BID FOR PRESIDENCY EXAMINED

PM141425 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[B. Ivanov article under the rubric "We Report Details": "Gary Hart: Ready To Take Off?"]

[Text] At the beginning of January, the name of Senator Gary Hart, Democrat, could again be glimpsed on the pages of U.S. newspapers. The reason for this was provided by the senator's statement that he had decided not to seek reelection to the Senate this year. Political observers and specialists unanimously interpreted this move of Hart's as evidence of his determination to run for the post of president at the next presidential elections in 1988.

This will be the second attempt by the Colorado senator to scale the U.S. political Olympus. He already tried his luck 2 years ago when he stood together with other Demcoratic presidential hopefuls. However, at that time Hart was defeated and the democratic nomination was won by former Vice President W. Mondale who, as is known, in turn lost the contest for the White House to the incumbent, President Reagan.

And so, does the Colorado senator intend to try his luck again? The answer is clear. He does. The point is that the political situation in the democratic camp is currently extremely favorable for Hart. Senator E. Kennedy's recent decision not to take part in the contest for the presidential seat has automatically turned Hart into an unquestionable favorite among the potential democratic presidential hopefuls.

What is Hart's political creed? The ideas he advocates are perhaps equally attractive to both, those who oppose the militarist adventurism of the Reagan "team" and the moderates and a particular section of conservative voters.

The senator favors a freeze on nuclear arsenals, a substantial reduction in military spending, abandonment of the space strike arms development [sozdaniye] program, and improvement of the whole spectrum of Soviet-U.S. relations, regarding truly serious talks on disarmament problems as pivotal. However, he does not describe himself as a liberal. Pacificism is alien to him. He is an influential member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and has a good understanding of issues pertaining to military building. The senator advocates that U.S. conventional armed forces be strengthened and their combat readiness be enhanced. Hart favors a strengthened NATO. So it would not be right to ascribe to him views that are too "dovish."

During his less than 50 years Hart has experienced many ups and downs. Now, it seems, Hart's life is about to take a new turn. Judging from appearances, he is ready to show his political face and take on any aspirant to the country's highest state office. The last election campaign was just the dress rehearsal, according to his words. Politicians and journalists are asking today: Will 1988 be the year when Hart takes off?

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION VISITS PAKISTAN

Hatch Remarks

LD121153 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] A delegation of U.S. senators and congressmen has arrived in Pakistan for a 3-day visit. Speaking to journalists, Senator Orrin Hatch, head of the delegation, stated that the United States will continue to give economic and military aid to Pakistan. He also spoke for expansion of support for the Afghan counterrevolutionary rabble and praised Islamabad's domestic policy.

'Dushman' Military Aid Confirmed

LD132337 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1543 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jan (TASS) -- TASS observer Valeriy Vavilov writes:

The head of a delegation of U.S. senators and congressmen, Orrin Hatch, speaking in Islamabad in eulogy of the internal and external policy of Pakistan, called for an expansion of support for the Afghan counterrevolution and promised further military and economic aid for this goal.

In other words, the U.S. senator confirmed the U.S. course of further expansion of the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in which a place of no little importance is ascribed to Pakistan.

In Islamabad the U.S. delegation saw with their own eyes how the U.S. billions generously allocated for military aid to the Pakistani regime are being used: at this time tens of thousands of Pakistani soldiers, with the support of tanks, artillery, and air force, are carrying out a punitive operation against the disobedient Pashtun tribes, who have been so bold as to come out against the utilization of their own land in the interests of the Afghan counterrevolution.

Moreover, Orrin Hatch, a member of the council of directors of the national endowment for democracy [natsionalnyy fond v podderzhku demokratii] was not on edge over the fact that the Pakistani military machine, in bringing about "democratic order" in the regions where the Pashtun tribes are settled has already destroyed hundreds of Pashtun villages, destroyed their dwellings, and leveled the seats of a civilian population forcing them to take cover in the mountains.

Only the fact that the punitive action of the Islamabad authorities has not led -- as Islamabad and its transatlantic masters were calculating -- to a quick success, that is to a "liberation" of the routes for transferring gangs of dushmans into Afghanistan, to the "liberation" of territories where these enemies of the Afghan revolution would be able to prepare their bloody crimes against the DRA without hindrance, obviously did not suit the "champion of democracy". The Pakistani troops did not manage to remove these "obstacles;" the Pashtun tribes have taken up weapons and are dealing a crushing blow to the occupiers. The fights against the Pakistani military machine and the dushman gangs are taking on an ever increasingly organised and persistent nature; the Pashtun tribes are not only defending themselves high in the mountains, but are also carrying out daring operations against units of the Pakistani regular army causing substantial manpower and equipment losses.

Wali Khan, Afridi leader -- one of the large Pashtun tribes -- has called on all peace-loving forces of the world to give assistance in the struggle against the armed aggression of Islamabad. This just struggle by the Pashtuns meets with the sympathy and support of all freedom-loving people in Pakistan itself and in other countries in the world.

U.S. USES 'CRUDE FORCE' TO HALT AFGHAN DEVELOPMENT

PM141431 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 86 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Vikentiy Matveyev's "Political Observer's Opinion": "High-Sounding Talk and Dark Deeds"]

[Text] In the United States it is now no longer just the news media, but also members of the Senate and the House of Representatives who admit that subversive actions against the DRA have now become -- as regards scale -- "the biggest U.S. operation since the Vietnam war." More than 80 percent of the CIA's annual appropriations under the heading "secret operations" are spent to fund these operations.

President Reagan's 28 December speech in Los Angeles confirmed (as if it needed to) the U.S. Government course aimed at providing "effective assistance" -- as he put it -- to "freedom fighters," as the people are referred to who actually are merely obedient tools in the hands of their masters obsessed with plans for global expansion.

As is well known, in connection with the establishment of the so-called Central Command -- Centcom -- by the Pentagon, the Transatlantic military have "included" Afghanistan and some other sovereign states in the sphere of their expansionist activities in the vast area comprising the Near East, the Persian Gulf, and Southwest Asia. Schemes of this nature are, of course, one thing, and reality is another. It is well within the capability of peoples to counter ambitions of this kind. However, these ambitions lead to a serious deterioration of the situation and outright bloodshed.

The references in the aforementioned speech to the "ideals of freedom and independence" allegedly pursued by Washington cannot deceive anybody. Such "ideals" -- if you can call them that -- smack of human suffering, the smoke of conflagrations, and explosives. How else is one to interpret the thinly vieled exhortations of the author of the speech for continued bloodshed on Afghan soil! And, of course, it is not just a question of "exhortations." No effort is spared to prevent the Afghan people from building a peaceful life in accordance with their own wishes. For the Afghan people, the hundreds of millions of dollars allocated by official Washington establishments for "secret operations" mean the deaths of their sons and daughters; destroyed hospitals, schools, places of worship, and enterprises; and acts of sabotage and terror.

Details to this effect have often been published in the Afghan press. But here is a quote from the magazine THE MIDDLE EAST which is published in London and does not sympathize with the democratic forces in Afghanistan. The magazine was forced to admit that "many teachers have been killed by dushmans." Teachers! Bullets and dynamite against the world of knowledge!

The terror organized at official level is accompanied by "psychological warfare." There are reports that Washington plans to appropriate $500,000 in fiscal 1986 to train professional ideological saboteurs in the United States and to dispatch them to Afghanistan for the purpose of disseminating disinformation about the situation in the country and the policy of the DRA Government.

In this psychological warfare, the aforementioned speech of the White House boss is just another salvo fired at official level, as it were. There was nothing new in this speech, of course. It shows yet again who is obstructing the path of peaceful, political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan and for what reason. The remark that "the struggle in Afghanistan is of great strategic and military significance" attracts attention. The author of the speech could say a great deal on this topic and shed light on the mainsprings of the U.S. interventionist course. He prefers to remain silent on this matter. Otherwise he would have to say that it was precisely the subversive activity of the United States and certain other Western countries directed against the democratic transformations in Afghanistan and aimed at transforming the country into a bridgehead hostile to the Soviet Union which led to the exacerbation of the situation in this part of Southwest Asia. This was the reason for the Afghan Government's request to the USSR for fraternal assistance in defending the country's independence.

Zbigniew Brzezinski has some interesting things to say on this topic in his memoirs. During his time as President Carter's national security adviser -- in 1979 to be precise — official Washington started supplying weapons to antigovernment groups in Afghanistan. Far-reaching plans were linked with these supplies, especially after the United States lost such an important bridgehead in Southwest Asia as Iran was under the Shah. It is well known that figures in the present U.S. Administration reacted with a great deal of agitation and nervousness to the events in Iran at that time and criticized the politicians who were then in power in Washington for their "inaction" (although the latter were by no means inactive, but were simply no longer able to change the course of events).

There is no mention of this either in the above-mentioned Los Angeles speech. On the other hand, it contains a whole collection of stereotyped slanderous claims against the Soviet Union and our country's policy toward Afghanistan. Transnational corporations do not hold sway in Afghanistan, they are prevented from making superprofits through plundering the country's resources. The Afghan people are fully resolved to continue to develop their economy and their creative potential and they rely on our country's great help and assistance. Clearly, it is this that is upsetting the gentlemen across the ocean who have gotten used to regarding almost the whole world as their own backyard.

The present U.S. Administration's provocative interventionist course in respect to the DRA is part of a broader U.S. strategy aimed at crushing the forces of national liberation and progress. For this purpose "rapid deployment forces" are being formed. Old U.S. military strong points and bridgeheads overseas are being expanded and new ones are being established. Billions of dollars are being spent.

Attempts are made to convince the U.S. people that states and regimes that refuse to follow the wake of U.S. policy represent some kind of "threat." People in Washington refuse to reconcile themselves to the idea that the present-day world is in a state of flux and that what is old and obsolete is on the way out and is being replaced by new and growing trends.

By their attempts to halt the objective course of historical development, to present overdue social and other changes as "the machinations of external forces," and to use crude force against such changes, the initiators of this neoimperialist course are fueling dangerous regional conflicts and must accept responsibility for everything that leads to bloodshed and threatens the foundations of peace. Nonetheless, they will not achieve their aim.

POINDEXTER TRIES FOR MORE 'CONTRA' FUNDING

LD101917 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 10 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutyy reporting:

The Washington administration and its political allies in the U.S. Congress are working to devise a strategy of "pushing" a new portion of aid to Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries through the supreme legislative body of the United States. John Poindexter, assistant to the President for national security affairs, held a meeting in the White House Thursday with Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who often expresses views coinciding with those of the administration. They discussed the question of what should be done to get the Congress to approve quickly new sizeable funds for supporting the terrorist formations of the "contras".

Yielding to the White House pressure, the Congress sanctioned the allocation of 27 million dollars in aid to the "contras" in the current fiscal year. Then not so long ago President Reagan announced that he would press for a radical expansion of the supply of arms, ammunition and equipment to the CIA-guided Somocists. However, many congressmen are opposed to the idea of scaling up the undeclared war of the United States on Nicaragua. As Senator Lugar himself admitted, some members of the Congress considered the "contras" to be shady characters.

To reverse such sentiments the White House held a meeting early this week. It was attended by Constantine Menges, a high-ranking official of the National Security Council, Richard McCormack, permanent representative of the U.S. to the Organization of American States, and leaders of the reactionary organization Heritage Foundation and some others. The meeting decided that the administration should make active efforts to promote a "positive image" of the counter-revolutionary groupings among the Americans.

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS 'KEEP DOGGING' SHUTTLE MISSION

LD141022 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 14 TASS -- Technical mishaps keep dogging the space shuttle Columbia blasted off Sunday.

The press reported that the imager amplifier the crew had hoped to use to take pictures of Halley's comet had broken down and all attempts to clear the trouble were so far of no avail. Flight directors are considering cutting the mission by one day to land Columbia Thursday rather than Friday since the seven delays of the spaceship's liftoff due to faulty hardware have already put the shuttle flight schedule, which provides for Columbia's next launch to take place on March 6, under threat.

TOLKUNOV RECEIVES JINGJI RIBAO EDITOR 13 Jan

PM141343 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "IZVESTIYA's Guests"]

[Text] L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, received An Gang, editor of the newspaper JINGJI RIBAO, in the Kremlin on 13 January. He is in the Soviet Union at IZVESTIYA's invitation.

Taking part in the talk, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, were Li Zewang, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, and the JINGJI RIBAO correspondents accompanying An Gang.

NPC STANDING COMMITTEE SESSION BEGINS

PM141341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Session Opens"]

[Text] Beijing, 13 Jan -- A routine session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress [NPC], sixth convocation, has opened here. The Chinese press reports that the agenda for the session included questions of the convocation of the fourth session of the NPC, sixth convocation, and the examination of a number of draft laws and proposals, including proposals on cadre appointments and transfers.

On the first day of the session, the members of the NPC Standing Committee heard a report on the draft PRC law "On Fisheries" and explanations on the opening up of access for foreign ships to Najing port -- China's biggest internal port, which is on the Yangzi River.

ANNIVERSARY OF ZHOU ENLAI'S DEATH COMMEMORATED

PM121724 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Memory of Zhou Enlai"]

[Text] Beijing, 10 Jan -- The Chinese press has marked the 10th anniversary of Zhou Enlai's death by publishing articles, reminiscences, photographs, verse dedications, and other materials telling of his revolutionary activity and also of his contribution to the formation and development of people's China in his post as premier of the PRC State Council. The newspaper JINGJI RIBAO carried a signed [avtorskiy] article on Zhou Enlai's involvement in drawing up the first and second 5-year plans for the development of the PRC national economy.

Wreaths and flowers were laid in memory of Zhou Enlai at the monument to people's heroes in Tiananmen Square in Beijing.

SHEVARDNADZE PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO JAPAN

Seen Off by Aliyev

LD141623 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 14 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Eduard Shevardnadze today left Moscow for Tokyo for an official visit at the invitation of the Japanese Government. After that, he will pay official friendly visits to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Mongolia. Eduard Shevardnadze was seen off at the airport by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Geydar Aliyev, other officials.

Arrival Statement Reported

LD150658 Moscow TASS in English 0653 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, January 15 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, arrived here today for an official visit at the invitation of the Government of Japan. At Haneda Airport he was met by Shintaro Abe, minister of foreign affairs, Yasue Katori, the ambassador of Japan to the USSR, and by other officials. Among the welcoming party were Petr Abrasimov, the ambassador of the USSR to Japan, and the heads of diplomatic missions.

Upon arrival Eduard Shevardnadze made the following statement:

"Our flight to your country lasted many hours and, judging from this alone, we have arrived from afar. But there is another reality, more significant to us, namely, that we live quite close to each other."

"Talks have not yet begun but one understanding, a very important one, between us has already been reached, I think. As your prime minister Mr. Nakasone has said, 'Japan and the USSR are neighbours and will remain such as long as the earth will exist.' We fully agree with these words which contain a great meaning. We have arrived in your country with a sincere desire to make a step towards our two countries' becoming good neighbours. We shall be gratified if this is achieved.

"I attach much importance to conversations with Minister of Foreign Affairs Shintaro Abe. In my view, our first meeting in New York was a constructive and mutually beneficial one. I am also expecting a serious and good talk with the prime minister of Japan. At this moment, in the first minutes of stay in your land, I want to say that I am looking forward to acquainting myself with the country the ancient spiritual culture and contemporary achievements of which arouse everlasting and profound respect among Soviet people.

"Prior to my departure, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, asked me to convey most cordial wishes of peace and happiness to the people of Japan.

"Allow myself, too, to wish our two peoples' movement towards each other be straight and be accompanied with a wind of good changes".

Meeting With Abe

LD150835 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, has arrived in Tokyo on an official visit today. Talks started today between the Soviet foreign minister and his Japanese opposite number, Shintaro Abe, and there will be a meeting with the prime minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone.

KYODO Report on Meeting

OW151135 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze warned Japan Wednesday it should give top priority to its own national interest in contemplating its participation in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) which he said would further escalate the arms race. Shevardnadze issued the warning in a two and a half-hour meeting here with Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe who said the Japanese Government will make an independent decision on whether or not to join in the research phase of the space-based anti missile defense program. Arguing that the current global situation is in a "dangerous" state,the Soviet foreign minister advised the Japanese to take into consideration their own national interest in dealing with the SDI issue, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

Shevardnadze met with Abe at the heavily-guarded Iikura guesthouse shortly after his arrival in Tokyo on a five-day visit, the first by a Soviet foreign minister in a decade. The Soviet foreign minister blasted SDI as "an extension" of the arms race and called last November's U.S.-Soviet summit as "just a step" in the long road toward arms control and disarmament, the Japanese official said. Abe's talks with Shevardnadze in Tokyo marked the resumption of regular ministerial consultations which were last held in Moscow in 1978 before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Abe told Shevardnadze that the Japanese Government is studying whether to join in SDI's research phase, as America's two European allies -- Britain and West Germany -- have done, by taking into account Japan's security arrangements with the United States. Abe in a gesture of Japanese determination to win the reversion of four Soviet-controlled islands personally welcomed Shevardnadze at Haneda Airport. In an arrival statement, the Soviet foreign minister said he came to Japan with "a sincere desire" and expectations of "a wind of good changes" in Japan-Soviet relations which have soured in recent years as a result of East-West tensions. Abe and Shevardnadze discussed during their Wednesday session overall East-West relations, including arms control, SDI in relation to the past U.S.-Soviet summit and Japan's potential participation in its research program and the growing Soviet military buildup in the Far East, according to the official. The Foreign Ministry official said the two foreign ministers agreed to devote the second and third round of their talks Thursday to other international issues like regional conflicts and Japan-Soviet relations, including trade. The territorial issue is also expected to be taken up.

Foreign Minister Abe, voicing grave concern about the deployment of SS-20 missiles and other arms, requested the Soviets to reduce their military arsenal in the Far East as a step to reduce the tension in the region.

Shevardnadze's warning against Japanese participation in SDI's research came as Japanese and American officials were gathering in Hawaii to explore steps to strengthen their defense cooperation. The new Soviet leadership under General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev decided to send the foreign minister to Japan as part of "peace offensive" aimed at dividing the Western alliance, according to a Soviet affairs analyst in the Japanese Foreign Ministry. The analyst also said the Soviets are trying to use Shevardnadze's visit here to obtain Japanese capital and technology for their economic development program.

Officials said Japan considers his trip here "the most important" development in Japan-Soviet relations in recent years and "a starting point" for improving bilateral relations.

Foreign Minister Abe in his talks Thursday with Shevardnadze is certain to raise the territorial issue which, in Japan's view, has been the major "fundamental" question and one of "unresolved problems" since normalization of diplomatic relations in 1956.

A Foreign Ministry official told reporters the Abe-Shevardnadze meeting took place in a "frank and businesslike" manner at which the Soviet foreign minister proposed that the two countries will from now on continue regular ministerial consultations. The official added that Shevardnadze made no "direct reference" to the Soviet proposal for an Asian security scheme that Gorbachev originally made last year. The Soviet foreign minister will confer with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Saturday morning.

A joint communique may be issued by the time Shevardnadze holds his first news conference in a noncommunist, industrialized country at Japan National Press Club Sunday. He and his journalist wife Nanuli will watch a Kabuki play Friday evening.

Nakasone Discusses Visit

LD142046 Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Ottawa, January 14 TASS -- Speaking at a news conference here, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said that he welcomed the visit of Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., to Japan.

Yasuhiro Nakasone, who is on an official visit in Canada, stressed that he would like to have a "very open, serious and frank" conversation with the Soviet minister on many issues pertaining to international and bilateral relations.

He said he would like to use the occasion to discuss different political and economic matters, scientific and cultural exchanges. We would like to see further development of bilateral relations, he said. Japan and the Soviet Union are neighbors and should work in this direction, like good neighbors should, Yasuhiro Nakasone stressed.

The Japanese prime minister also said that he attached great importance to the second Soviet-American summit meeting scheduled for the current year and expressed the hope that it would make progress toward the reduction and, eventually, the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

Japanese Politicians Comment

LD150004 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report from Tokyo by special correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] On 15 January a television program devoted to Comrade Shevardnadze's visit to Japan will be broadcast from here. The Japanese public and mass media rightly consider that the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva should have a favorable impact on relations between the Soviet Union and Japan too. Indeed, Geneva gave these relations a very important impulse. The Japanese public now expects concrete action from its country's government. And the talks starting on 15 January provide just that opportunity to begin real movement ahead. This is Masashi Ishibashi, chairman of the Japan Socialist Party. [Video shows Ishibashi facing camera; speaking in Japanese with superimposed Russian translation] Until now there has been a winter season in Japanese-Soviet relations, which cannot be tolerated. We hope that this visit will serve as a spur to the further development of Soviet-Japanese relations.

[Tsvetov] And here is the view of Susumu Nikaido, vice president of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party.

[Begin Nikaido recording in Japanese with superimposed Russian translation] When I learn of the forthcoming arrival in Japan of the Soviet foreign minister, I was seized by a feeling of satisfaction. I would have liked this meeting to have occurred earlier of course, and I hope the meeting will be a step toward the conclusion of a peace treaty between the USSR and Japan. And on the path toward this, I hope the ministers of foreign affairs will achieve progress in resolving such important matters of Soviet-Japanese relations as economic and trade links, cooperation in exploiting the natural resources of Siberia and the Far East, and the development of fishing. That is, I look forward to the forthcoming talks permitting mutual understanding to be achieved on a whole complex of issues, including territorial ones. [end recording]

[Tsvetov] The ruling party and Government of Japan cannot ignore the desire of the Japanese public to live in peace and good-neighborliness with our country. However, the promotion of a far-fetched territorial problem makes one think of the inconsistency of Japan's position. After all, to put forward this nonexistent problem is to foolishly disregard the realities that came about after World War II. In his New Year speech, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone used the words: "a fruitful start" when speaking of the talks between the foreign ministers of the USSR and Japan. The Japanese public hopes that the Japanese side will indeed make a fruitful start, and allow -- to continue the sporting metaphor -- no false starts.

COMMENTARIES ON USSR-JAPAN RELATIONS

Korolev

LD141624 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 14 Jan 86

[News Analyst Vladimir Korolev commentary]

[Text] In view of the coming trip of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to some of the countries of Asia, the attention of the public in the region is again focused on the Soviet initiatives aimed at ensuring security in Asia. Here's what Radio Moscow news analyst, Vladimir Korolev, writes.

Being an Asian power, the Soviet Union cannot remain indifferent to the possibility of a new world conflagration starting in Asia, and there is such a danger. It increased especially when the United States brought nuclear weapons into the region. The Soviet Union is for all problems in the area being settled without the use of force, through talks. It is also clear that the success of the talks will depend on the degree of trust the participants have in each other. Hence the Soviet Union's proposal on confidence-building measures in the Far East and, according to the Soviet Union, that could be implemented both on a multilateral or bilateral basis -- for instance, between the Soviet Union and Japan. The Soviet Union sincerely wants to have reliable relations of good-neighborliness with it and also mutually advantageous cooperation and mutual trust and many signs seem to indicate that in Japan too there is a growing understanding that the Soviet Union and Japan, being neighbors, should live accordingly.

Soviet-Chinese relations are also very important for strengthening peace on the Asian continent. In the past 3.5 years much has been done to develop those relations in different fields, and further progress could be made in that respect, but of course not to the detriment of the interests of the third countries. In Soviet-Chinese relations the Soviet Union would like to obtain even more, to put on their basis some kind of a political document.

Such are only a few aspects of the Soviet policy in Asia. The Soviet Union does not impose on other countries a prepared formula of all-Asian security. It calls for joint participation in working it out and it hopes that in the future an all-Asian forum could be held to exchange opinions and to look for constructive solutions. This comprehensive approach to the problems of security in Asia suggested by the Soviet Union has been assessed highly by many Asian countries.

Tsvetov

LD142045 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 14 Jan 86

[News Analyst Vladimir Tsvetov commentary]

[Text] On the eve of the visit to Japan of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze the mass media in that country and also representatives of political and business circles give much attention to the prospects of Soviet-Japanese relations, and that is only natural. The coming talks offer a good opportunity for strengthening and continuing the positive process which recently began to be felt in relations between the two countries. Political and business contacts were livened up last year and there are actually all conditions for establishing really good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Japan.

First of all, the two countries are geographically close to each other and no political decision can do away with that. Therefore, the two countries simply must learn to live next to each other and in such conditions it is only on the basis of good-neighborliness that relations between them can develop. And that goes not only for bilateral contacts. In the present nuclear age the threat of a global catastrophe is too real for one country to be interested in strengthening peace more than the other one. Peace is equally needed to everyone, the Soviet Union, Japan, the United States, or any other country. Therefore, everybody together should strengthen peace.

It is also clear that better Soviet-Japanese relations could be a significant factor in reducing tension not only in Asia but all over the world.

The Soviet conception of security in Asia is a comprehensive one. It provides for taking into consideration the lawful interests of all countries and peoples, including Japan. And that, of course, opens wide prospects for bilateral political cooperation in the common interest of strengthening peace and stability. And on that key issue the interest of the Soviet Union and Japan cannot but coincide. The only thing that is required in that respect is a responsible and constructive approach of both sides. And for the Soviet Union, it has always been and is ready to do that. (?The same about) trade and economic contacts which, so to say, is the material foundation of Soviet-Japanese relations and both Japan and the Soviet Union believe that in that field too there are broad opportunities for cooperation, including the development of the rich natural resources of Siberia and the Far East. Geographical closeness and the economic structures of Japan and the eastern regions of the Soviet Union would supplement each other, help to promote economic cooperation, and the growth of that cooperation last year gives rise to hope that that will continue in the future as well. As for cultural contacts they actually went on despite certain fluctuations in inter-governmental relations, and that shows that the two peoples take a big and permanent interest in each other's culture.

So there are good objective conditions for promoting good-neighborly and mutually advantageous relations between the Soviet Union and Japan. That is what makes the Soviet Union sure that relations with Japan can be improved. That was also stressed by the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, when he spoke at a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. On the other hand, when approaching matters from a realistic point of view, one has to admit that the factors that hamper progress in Japanese-Soviet relations are of an artificial nature. They are deliberately created and played up by those who are not interested or are directly hostile to the positions of Moscow and Tokyo drawing closer to each other. There are certain elements in Japan who assert that by seeking good-neighborliness the Soviet Union wants to upset Japanese-American relations. But that is absurd. The Soviet Union has always believed that any improvement of relations with any country to the detriment of the lawful interest of the third countries is unstable and can always lead to new conflicts.

The official pronouncements in Tokyo in favor of improving relations with the Soviet Union give rise to the hope that goodwill and common sense will prevail and that the vital interests of the Soviet and Japanese peoples will not be sacrificed to temporary political ambitions.

Vdovin

PM141523 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jan 86 Second Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent Yu. Vdovin: "A Crucial Choice"]

[Text] Tokyo -- The only country in the world to have experienced the horrors of the atom bomb winces at the growth of the nuclear menace. Wanting to ensure that it never happens again anywhere, the Japanese people are urging that every conceivable effort be made to ban and eliminate the weapons which reduced Hiroshoma and Nagasaki to ashes and which, having become even more horrible, are now a threat to the whole of mankind.

There was a unanimous assessment here of the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva: We welcome them. We await the deeds confirming them. We will contribute to ensuring that they benefit all the peoples.

The significance of the Soviet-U.S. meeting, Japanese Prime Minister Y. Nakasone said, is that the two countries' top leaders agreed to continue the dialogue.

This will help to further the cause of peace and international security. We also feel a responsibility for this, he said, and we will make an effort to ensure that the accords reached at the meeting are implemented. The prime minister expressed the hope that the results of the Geneva talks will have a favorable effect on Japan's relations with the USSR which have been stagnant in recent years.

Foreign Minister S. Abe called the results of the Geneva meeting a good start. They are bound to affect Japanese-Soviet relations as well, he said, and we must ensure that this influence is beneficial. The minister pointed out that the Geneva results will help stabilize the world situation.

The results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva create the possibility of a change for the better in relations between West and East in general and also between individual countries, including relations between Japan and the USSR, ASAHI believes. Now that the United States and the USSR have made a new start in Geneva, the paper writes in an editorial article. It is necessary to consider changes in Japanese diplomacy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union. The chief task here is to determine what has to be done. It is time to stop approaching our gerat neighbor from the positions of the primitive "Soviet threat" theory. It is necessary, it concludes, to vigorously strive for constructive relations with the Soviet Union.

Therefore, many people in Japan see the improvement of relations with the Soviet Union as their chief task in the development of the positive results which were achieved in Geneva. This was further confirmed by Prime Minister Y. Nakasone at a press conference at the national journalists' club. He said that the Japanese Government is striving for a wide-scale improvement in Japanese-Soviet relations. Japan and the USSR are neighbors, he said. And we will remain neighbors as long as the world exists. Therefore, we need an integrated approach to relations between the two countries. The prime minister reiterated this idea the next day in parliament when the deputies asked him to comment on the part of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's report at the USSR Supreme Soviet session in which he talks of the Soviet Union's desire to develop good-neighborly relations with Japan.

Considerable space was given to the Soviet theme in the prime minister's new year press conference at which he called 1986 a year of preparation for the transition to the 21st century. The development of relations with the USSR, Y. Nakasone stated, is the chief foreign policy task this new year. I would like 1986 to be the year of the strengthening of friendly relations between Japan and the USSR, he continued, to lay the foundation for long-term, stable contact between the two neighboring countries. While repeating, as is his wont in such instances, the unfounded territorial claims on the USSR, which he noted, the Japanese ruling circles do not intend to renounce, the prime minister did declare a desire to create conditions for the development of a broad dialogue between Japan and the USSR in economic, cultural, and other spheres and for reciprocal visits by the two countries' top leaders.

In conversations with politicians and businessmen, and with ordinary voters one often hears statements to the effect that as long as the United States and the USSR are in a state of confrontation Japanese-Soviet relations should not be expected to improve. Why? Because, the expounders of the thesis say, Japan is too attached to the United States in a whole variety of spheres to be able to act independently. Although at the Japanese Foreign Ministry they try to introduce a bit of light into this somber picture. We act in tandem with Washington only insofar as it meets our national interests, they said. Life, however indicates differently.

The Japanese peace-loving public is acutely alarmed by attempts to turn the country into a major military power and to create a modern arms industry which has been markedly successful in recent years. This probably explains the recent decision to send another group of experts to the United States to study the possibilities for Japanese participation in the U.S. "star wars" program.

While officially backing SDI, the Japanese Government is in no hurry at the moment to make a final decision on participation in the program. Prime Minister Y. Nakasone recently told journalists that Japan does not feel that it is bound by any timeframe. The newspaper MAINICHI puts the Japanese Government's dual stance down to widespread fears in the country that the implementation of SDI could result in a new arms race spiral.

The results of the Geneva November summit are causing many people in Japan to take a new look at their foreign policy orientation. The Japanese Foreign Ministry leadership considers, YOMIURI points out, that the tone of the U.S.-Soviet dialogue, resumed in Geneva, creates considerably wider opportunities for Japanese diplomacy's crucial choice and requires of official Tokyo not that it simply go along with Washington, but that it make its own decisions. Japan can play a great part in the building of the new edifice of detente, MAINICHI writes in a new year editorial article. First, it has to make every effort to promote the easing of tension, above all in the Asian region. Second, to ensure even broader exchange with the USSR and the countries of Eastern Europe, now is a very propitious time to improve Japanese-Soviet relations, the paper points out.

Last year there were many statements by Tokyo officials about wanting to improve relations with the USSR. The Geneva results imparted new momentum to that trend. How is the future of relations between the two countries viewed here?

The predominant opinion in official circles is that relations must be moved from the stationary position and propelled in an upward direction. How? Several opinions are frequently expressed on this point. The advocates of the confrontational approach suggest that Japan should continue to make its well-known territorial claims on the USSR and start developing relations with the USSR only after they have been "satisfied." The adherents of the other line suggest improving relations first and then ensuring that the claims are met on that basis. The very fact that different approaches exist shows that the "unity" which official Tokyo claims exists in Japan on this question is a relative and vague concept.

Moreover, there is a mounting desire among Japanese political and business circles for the development of multifaceted ties between the two countries without any preliminary or subsequent conditions and for the removal of artificial barriers to this. Time will tell which approach prevails. And time is increasingly dictating the need for the development of political, trade and economic, technical, cultural, and other relations between the two countries on a mutually advantageous basis. Not only the USSR and Japan, but also their neighbors would gain from that course of events.

One is also waiting for its answer to a whole series of peaceful, constructive proposals by the Soviet Union aimed at improving the situation and strengthening trust and security in the Far East and Asia. The implementation of the Geneva accords would be aided by the widening of cooperation between the USSR and Japan in the development of natural resources in Siberia and the Far East, conservation and utilization of the resources of the Pacific Ocean, and joint research on the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy and in the struggle against environmental pollution.

The list goes on and on. It will take political will to give it real meaning. Geneva is unequivocal on this point.

ECONOMIST VIEWS ECONOMIC RIVALRY WITH JAPAN

AU141111 Paris AFP in English 1059 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, Jan 14 (AFP) -- Japan will become the Soviet Union's most dangerous economic rival in coming years, and may overtake it if it does not greatly increase its growth rates, according to an influential economist here.

Japan has set two goals: overtaking the Soviets by 1990 and the Americans by the turn of the century, Dr. Boris Iskakhov, of Moscow's Plekhanov Economic Institute, said in a study. A copy of the document was obtained today by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, a day before Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze begins the first Soviet visit to Japan at the minister level for a decade.

With an economic potential put at 1.1 trillion dollars, against 1.2 trillion for the Soviet Union and 1.9 for the United States, Japan had already almost caught up with the Soviet Union, Dr. Iskakhov said -- even though Japan joined the "trillionaires club" in 1983. The Soviet Union has been a member since the end of the 1970's.

Dr. Iskakhov noted that Japan's land mass was only 1.7 percent that of the Soviet Union, its population less than half, and its raw material reserves "wretched" by comparison. But, he said, Soviets also worked "two to three times worse than the Americans, and 3.5 times worse than the Japanese and the West Germans."

To ensure its "strategic survival," Dr. Iskakhov said, the Soviet Union had to achieve an annual growth rate of around five percent (against a little over three percent in the last few years). Dr. Iskakhov helped draw up a document setting out basic directions for the Soviet economy up to the year 2000, which the party's 27th congress will be asked to approve next month.

In his study of Japan, he noted that whereas the Soviet Union in 1965 was second in the world rankings for average training levels, by 1982 it had slipped to 24th, alongside Panama and Ecuador and behind Lebanon at war.

This, after 18 years of power by late party chief and head of state Leonid Brezhnev, was because priority had for too long been given in the Soviet Union to professional training, to the detriment of general education.

According to Dr. Iskakhov, Soviets had an average of nine secondary-level classes, 1.5 less than Japanese and 2.7 less than Americans.

If Japan did succeed in relegating the Soviet Union to third place in the economic "super-giants club," he added, the Kremlin would lose its prestige in the West as well as among socialist countries and in the Third World.

Dr. Iskakhov said intensification of the Soviet economy would come from thorough reorganisation at management level, and a "renewal of cadres" to overcome a general laxness in society that survives from the Brezhnev years.

He also said there had been a "moral, economic and ideological demobilisation," encouraged in the second half of the 1970's by an increase in salaries higher than the growth in productivity and national income.

"Detente weakened us and increased our demobilisation," he added.

Dr. Iskakhov said there was now opposition to steps by Mikhail Gorbachev, who became party chief nearly a year ago, to revive the economy. This opposition, whether "passive and silent" or "active," was strong, he added. In one way or another, it "sabotaged the determination" of the leadership to achieve economic revival.

NAKASONE DISCUSSES GENEVA SUMMIT, NUCLEAR ARMS

LD141047 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Ottawa, January 14 TASS -- The prime minister of Japan, Yasuhiro Nakasone, speaking in the Canadian Parliament during his official visit here, stressed the importance of the Geneva meetings and talks between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the USA for strengthening peace and achieving disarmament. Nakasone expressed satisfaction with the summit meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. This meeting, he said, is only the beginning of the process and does not by itself give grounds for too much optimism. But it is also true that we saw the first glimmer of hope, he said.

The Japanese prime minister expressed the hope that at the second Soviet-U.S. summit meeting this year progress would be made toward international peace and disarmament. He called for the elimination of nuclear weapons saying that never before has mankind faced such a threat of total and immediate destruction. Prime Minister Nakasone also pointed to the need for general and complete prohibition of nuclear tests.

USSR-MONGOLIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY MARKED

Soviet Leadership Message

LD141549 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 14 TASS -- The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers cordially congratulated the fraternal Mongolian people on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic.

The message addressed to the Mongolian leaders Jambyn Batmonh and Dumaagiyn Sodnom says that close and many-faceted interaction between the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic is steadily developing on a sound treaty basis laid down in 1946 and developed further in the new Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed on January 15, 1966. Over this period of time, relations between the Soviet Union and Mongolia, that implement in practice the principles of socialist internationalism were enriched with new content, assumed the character of large-scale cooperation which now comprises all the main spheres of public life of the two countries.

In the international aspect, Soviet-Mongolian cooperation is an important link in the system of multi-lateral ties of socialist states, the message says. The treaty between the Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic serves the interests of the entire socialist community, was and remains an important factor in the struggle for durable peace and stability in the Far East, in the Asian-Pacific region.

Mongolian Leaders' Message

LD141604 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1523 GMT 14 Jan 86

["Telegram from the Mongolian Leaders" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jan (TASS) -- The treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance serves as an exceptionally important factor in safeguarding the security of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR] and as a lasting basis for reciprocal action between our countries in the international arena in the struggle to avert nuclear war and to preserve and consolidate peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world. This is stressed in the telegram from Mongolian leaders Jambyn Batmonh and Dumaagiyn Sodnom to Mikhail Gorbachev, Andrey Gromyko, and Nikolay Ryzhkov.

The MPR consistently supports the constructive initiatives and untiring efforts of the CPSU and Soviet state aimed at averting an arms race in space and stopping it on earth, as well as carrying out the Geneva accords, says the telegram.

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Government of the MPR will continue to steadfastly pursue a course toward strengthening and deepening the friendship and close, comprehensive cooperation between our parties, countries, and peoples on the basis of the unshakeable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, stresses the telegram from the Mongolian leaders.

Vorotnikov Attends Moscow Meeting

LD141735 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] A festive meeting of representatives of the Moscow public is devoted to the 40th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid between the Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic. It is taking place in the Columned Hall of the House of Unions. In the Presidium are Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, other officials, and a delegation of the Federation of Mongolian Organizations of Peace and Friendship and of the Mongolian-Soviet Friendship Society.

Festive Meeting in Mongolia

LD142021 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Oleg Orlov report from Ulaanbaatar]

[Text] Mongolia is marking the 40th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Republic-USSR Friendship and Mutual Aid Treaty. A festive meeting held in the Mongolian capital was devoted to this event. Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee, chairman of the Great People's Hural Presidium and other leaders of the republic took part in it.

Comrade Namsray, member of the Politburo of the MPRP Central Committee, secretary of the Central Committee, delivered a report. He noted that the Treaty of Friendship and Mutual Aid between Mongolia and the Soviet Union had strengthened even more the traditional friendship between the peoples of our countries, having become the basis for the development of multilateral relations in all fields of life.

The treaty, said Comrade Namsray, has played an exceptional role in the cause of transforming socialism into a reality on the ancient Mongolian soil. The long-term program of cooperation between our countries for the period up to the year 2000, signed by Comrades Gorbachev and Batmonh in Moscow, opens up new prospects for Mongolia.

It is only possible to implement all the socialist construction tasks in conditions of peace, said Comrade Namsray. For this reason, the preservation of peace, the process of defending universal security are today a paramount question and a paramount task.

In the name of this noble goal, the CPSU and the Soviet state, together with the other fraternal parties and countries, are making titanic efforts, putting forward a whole complex of constructive, peaceful initiatives and proposals, and taking major practical steps. It is not a matter of impassioned oratory or wishful thinking; these are real actions which fully correspond to the interests of all countries and peoples.

DPRK ENVOY ANNOUNCES HALT TO MILITARY MANEUVERS

LD142013 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] A press conference was held today at the DPRK Embassy in Moscow, at which the statement of the republic's Foreign Ministry of 11 January was made known to journalists by (Yi Do-ren), temporary charge d'affaires of the DPRK to the USSR.

The document states that the DPRK Government has decided not to carry out large scale military exercises from 1 February this year, and to halt all military maneuvers during the talks with South Korea.

REPORTS, COMMENT ON PAKISTANI-TRIBAL FIGHTING

PRAVDA Report

PM031416 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Resisting the Stiflers of Freedom"]

[Text] Kabul, 2 Jan -- Fierce armed clashes between Afridi and Shinwar formations and Pakistani army subunits continue in the zone inhabited by Pushtun tribes. According to BAKHTAR reports, the Pakistani military threw 20 tanks, 40 armored personnel carriers, and 500 soldiers into the Bara region to destroy the Pushtun's houses. During the goons' return to base they were attacked by an Afridi tribe detachment. An armored personnel carrier was destroyed and two Pakistani servicemen were killed during the fighting. According to another report, the occupiers razed to the ground Pushtun houses in the (Sur Kumar) region. The Afridi tribe responded to this barbaric action by attacking a Pakistani army subunit in the Bara region, killing 11 Pakistani soldiers.

In its struggle against the independent tribes the Islamabad regime is making extensive use of Afghan counterrevolutionary gangs, which kill peaceful civilians and engage in plunder and violence. But their subversive activity does not go unpunished. In the Jamrud region, for example, an Afridi formation raided a Dushman camp, liquidating five bandits.

Afridi tribal chief (Wali Khan Kukikheyl) has sent a message to UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar. It points out that Ziaul Haq's military regime, trampling legislation and the norms of international law, has committed aggression against independent Pushtun tribes and is striving to impose its diktat on them by the force of arms. Totally innocent old people, women, and children are dying as a result.

The Pushtun tribes, the message notes, share common historical, linguistic, and religious roots with Afghanistan's people. The Afridi and Shinwari have always been against the use of the territory inhabited by them as bridgehead for aggression against the Dra, and this was declared yet again at the supreme Jirga of border tribes held in Kabul. The message points out the Pushtun's determination to resist any intrigues by hostile forces encroaching upon their independence and freedom. It contains an appeal to the United Nations and other international organization to pressure the Pakistani regime and force it to end the aggression and withdraw its forces from the zone inhabited by the tribes.

Baykov Comments

PM081541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Vladilen Baykov's "Commentator's Column": "The Pushtun Tragedy"]

[Text] For over a month now, the Islamabad authorities have been mounting punitive operations against Pushtun mountain tribes -- the Afridi, Shinwari, and others -- living in Pakistan near the Afghan border, and particularly in the area of the Khyber Pass.

By marching its troops into what is known as "the free tribes zone," Islamabad has not only violated the traditionally observed accord with the tribes which grants them a status of special autonomy, it is also engaging in essentially unconcealed genocide in respect of the tribes.

Helicopters, artillery, tanks, and thousands of soldiers are destroying mountain settlements, blockading the areas where the mountain dwellers live, and have cut off their food and essential goods supplies.

These punitive operations have been mounted by Islamabad clearly with U.S. knowledge. The U.S. Administration, which is the main organizer and inspirer of the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan, is angered by the fact that the Pushtun tribes are refusing to let counterrevolutionary gangs pass through their territory on the way to the DRA and are declaring their solidarity with their Afghan brothers. It is significant that not a word of condemnation has been addressed by Washington to the Pakistani authorities despite the fact that Washington is so fond of holding forth about "human rights."

In order to defend their honor and dwellings, adult Pushtuns have taken up arms and withdrawn into the mountains. Rejecting all of Islamabad's ultimatums, they are putting up a staunch resistance and inflicting tangible losses. Fierce armed clashes have taken place in the vicinity of Bara, Jamrud, Lwargi, and Landi Kotal. At tribal jirgas held in recent days, Pushtuns have reaffirmed their resolve not to allow the area inhabited by the tribes to be used as a bridgehead for aggressive intrigues against the DRA, and to continue to resist the Pakistani aggressors.

But of course, the forces are unequal. The mountain dwellers are fighting against regular Pakistani forces equipped with modern U.S. weapons bought under the U.S. military and economic aid agreement with Pakistan totaling $3.2 billion, while they themselves are at times using rifles dating back to the 1919 British-Afghan war. Gangs of Afghan counterrevolutionaries who have entrenched themselves on Pakistani territory are also using Islamabad against the Pushtuns.

On behalf of his fellow tribesmen, (Wali Khan Kukikheyl), head of the Afridi tribe, has appealed to the world public for help. He demanded that the aggression unleashed by the Pakistani soldiery be stopped and prevented from crushing the freedom and independence of the Pushtun tribes.

The destructive war unleashed by the imperialist forces against the Pushtuns must be stopped without delay!

DRA Envoy Quoted

LD101744 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- The armed venture of the Pakistani authorities against the Pashtun tribes in the Khyber valley is a part of the overall imperialist policy of destabilizing the situation in the region and a component of an undeclared war and aggression against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Habib Mangal, the ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the Soviet Union, said at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists in the Afghan Embassy here today.

The Ziaul Haq military regime has been carrying on its aggression against those tribes for a month now and has sent against them a well-equipped army, armoured personnel carriers, heavy artillery and planes. Pakistani troops are killing innocent women, children and old people and ruin their homes. Trying to impose its will on the tribes, the Ziaul Haq regime resorts to the basest methods, including threats, deception and force. One of the causes of the Pakistani aggression, Habib Mangal continued, is the fact that all the Pashtuns and Baluchis living in Pakistan, first and foremost the free Pashtun tribes, do not allow their traditional tribal lands to be turned into a staging area for aggression against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

They do not want their lands to house bases for counterrevolutionary gangs and have demanded more than once that Islamabad prohibit the criminal operations of those gangs. At the same time the Pashtun tribes do not permit mercenary gangs to infiltrate Afghanistan to carry out their dirty plans. The Afghan ambassador stressed that the Afridi, Shinwari, Mohmand, Wazir and Masud tribes from Chatral to Baluchistan supported the national liberation revolution of the Afghan people and denounced the intervention and armed aggression of world imperialism led by the USA, and also of hegemonism and the reactionary forces. The ambassador pointed out that the will of the Pashtun tribes was expressed at the supreme jirga of the frontier tribes in Kabul last November.

Describing the aggressive role of Pakistan, Habib Mangal stressed that the Pashtun tribes and Afghanistan were now facing the same aggressor. The Islamabad military regime and counterrevolutionary Afghan gangs are waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan and have now launched a joint aggression against the free tribes. Afghanistan and the Pashtuns therefore have a common enemy and they must join forces in fighting it. The Pashtuns, he pointed out, have helped Afghanistan in different periods of its history and, naturally, Afghanistan cannot leave them in their time of trial.

Answering questions from journalists, the Afghan ambassador again drew attention to the constructive proposals of the Afghan Government on a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan through negotiations, formulated in the well-known official documents of May 1980 and August 1981.

As for the possible ventures against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Habib Mangal said in conclusion, the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have everything they need to defend the building of a new life.

Tribes Under 'Repression'

LD141451 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Vladimir Fadeyev commentary]

[Text] According to reports from Pakistan, the authorities have yet again imposed repression upon the Baluchi tribes. Commentator Vladimir Fadeyev is at the microphone:

I have repeatedly met with Baluchis in Afghanistan. They were the representatives of those tribes, which have several years ago left their homeland, Baluchistan, because of persecution by the Pakistani military authorities. A people without a homeland -- this is how they refer to themselves, with bitterness, without ceasing to dream about the day when they will be able to thank the people and Government of Democratic Afghanistan for a temporary shelter and to return to the places where they were born and which they once left. But they know that their houses were turned into ruins.

(Mir-Azar) leader of one of the Baluchi tribes of Helmand Province told me that under the conditions of Ziaul Haq's dictatorship, anybody who even thought about the equality of Baluchis with other ethnic groups of Pakistan, and who would be in favor of progressive reform and Baluchistan's autonomy, would be thrown into jail. (Mir-Azar) has invited me to the tribal museum, where a small bag with soil from their homeland and photographs of hanged and shot patriots are kept as sacred relics. We will never forget these people, said (Mir-Azar) in a stern way, as if making a vow. We will never forgive Ziaul Haq and his patrons for their death.

We know, continued (Mir-Azar), that the Pakistani military is backed by the Americans. It was they who gave money to General Zia so that he would carry out the policy of carrot and stick among my people.

Some of those who did not agree with the new orders were destroyed; others were bribed. In our museum there are photographs of only several dozen people from our tribe, (Mir-Azar) explained to me. But on the conscience of the Pakistani regime there are tens of thousanes of destroyed Baluchis. They were killed because they wanted to walk on their homeland as its masters, to build their life according to their own plans and laws and not according to the order of the Islamabad rulers. My tribe did not bow its head and did not yield to sweet bribes and promises.

Unfortunately, (Mir-Azar) noted with bitterness, not all the leaders come out as a united front. Some of them agreed to support the military regime for money and presents; they betrayed their principles and effectively submitted to the policy of the colonizers.

I recall my meeting last year with (Mir-Azar) every time I read disturbing reports about Islamabad's repressions against the Pushtun and Baluchi tribes. Tanks, helicopters and artillery have been thrown in, on Ziaul Haq's order, for surpressing the Afridi and Shinwari Pushtun tribes, which refused to let the Dushman units pass through their territory from Pakistan to Afghanistan. For almost the entire month, the whole world has been following the course of an uneven fight between the brave and courageous people and units of the Pakistani regular army. The independence and honor of the two Pushtun tribes is being tested by modern weaponry.

Not by accident have I mentioned honor. The representatives of many Pushtun and Baluchi tribes last year voted in favor of the decision of the supreme assembly of border-tribes, which was held in Kabul. The assembly called on the Pushtun and Beluchi people not to allow murderers and enemies of their Afghan brothers and sisters to walk on their land. And now, when some of them have drossed into the path of the Afghan counterrevolution, the guns of Ziaul Haq have begun to speak immediately.

is well known, Islamabad long ago turned the territory of the free Pushtun and Baluchi tribes into a base for aggression against Democratic Afghanistan. On their land are the saboteurs' and terrorists' camp. The recent report that the Pakistani authorities have yet again started police repressions against the population and democratic organizations of Baluchistan can be interpreted only as fear in Washington and Islamabad of the growing national liberation movement among the Baluchis. The Dushmans are used with increased frequency against the latter.

The activity of the counterrevolutionary bands is being encouraged by official Washington, which does not even hide its direct involvement in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. It is not only Dushmans, who act as the servants of the transatlantic strategists, but also Islamabad, which utilizes the army to punish the Pushtun and Baluchi people and is at the same time trumpeting that this has to be done in the interests of the security of Pakistan itself. In any case, the Pakistani papers write about this in complete seriousness against the background of events in the Khyber Pass and in Baluchistan. They write about an imaginary threat on the part of external forces.

One might ask; whose security, then, is Islamabad defending on the territories where the Pushtun and Baluchi people live by having billeted there more than 100 special camps, where foreign military advisers, including U.S. advisers, teach the craft of killing to the traitors of the Afghan people?

DRA LEADING BODIES DISCUSS CHANGES AT JOINT SESSION

PM111457 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Strengthening the Social Base of the Revolution"]

[Text] Kabul, 10 Jan -- A joint session of the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium has taken place here under the chairmanship of B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council. As the BAKHTAR agency reports, it examined the question of pursuing a principled course of strengthening the social base of revolutionary power. To this end it is planned to bring in to leading administrative organs nonparty people from among authoritative representatives of all classes, social strata, ethnic groups, and tribes. The participants in the session comprehensively discussed the proposal to extend the Republic's Revolutionary Council and the representation on the council of workers, peasants, craftsmen, merchants, private businessmen, the clergy, and the intelligentsia. Among the candidates for membership in the Revolutionary Council are representatives of mass public and religious organizations of the DRA: the National Fatherland Front, the Democratic Organization of Afghan Youth, the Democratic Organization of Afghan Women, trade unions, unions of the creative intelligentsia, the council of ulamas and clergy, and the tribal jirgas.

The participants in the joint session also approved the proposal to create a commission to prepare a draft DRA fundamental law (constitution).

IZVESTIYA VIEWS U.S.-PHILIPPINES RELATIONS

PM141501 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent I. Kovalev dispatch: "The Philippines: Early Elections"]

[Text] Manila -- On 7 February millions of Filipinos will go to the polls to elect the country's president. But even though the election theme has dominated the press and television the problem of Philippine-U.S. relations remains exceptionally acute.

It is no secret here that the decision of President Marcos, who held power in the Philippines for 20 years now, to call the presidential elections more than 1 year before the allotted time was taken under pressure from across the ocean.

The U.S. press, Congress, special services, and those international financial organizations under Washington's control were brought into play in the U.S. political operations. Under threat of the cessation of economic assistance, the Philippines was told to give the bourgeois opposition a completely free hand. The press and official representatives of the U.S. Administration and Congress tried in every way to play up the thesis that the Philippine Government cannot cope with its economic difficulties and that it is riddled with corruption. From time to time the question of President Marcos' state of health was raised.

The President could not ignore such strong pressure -- after all, the United States has powerful levers for pressuring the Philippines. After 50 years of colonial rule U.S. military bases remained on the archipelago and U.S. capital, closely linked with local industrial, plantation-owning, and financial clans, retained its position there. A cohort of pro-U.S. figures remained in variuos circles of the state establishment -- political, social, religious, professional, and governemnt official circles. Year in, year out, the United States systematically and persistently continued strengthening its presence in the Philippines.

Let us turn our attention to the following facts. During World War II, the United States possessed 71 military bases in the Philippines occupying a total area of 60,000 hectares. Now the number of U.S. bases and other military facilities has fallen to 14 although they already occupy 82,500 hectares. The Subic Bay naval base and the Clark Field air base have been turned into the Pentagon's largest overseas bases. There are few people in the Philippines who doubt that nuclear weapons have been deployed there.

Nor are the chains of economic dominance rusting. Whereas in the past the United States used the Philippines as a source of raw materials, now the U.S. transnational corporations are increasingly turning the country into a part of their "assembly line." According to information in London's FINANCIAL TIMES, direct U.S. private capital investments alone in the Philippines have reached $3 billion. And the Philippine newspaper BULLETIN TODAY reports that Americans own 64 of the 100 largest companies in the Philippines in terms of output sold. There are now 80,000 U.S. citizens permanently resident here which is more than double the number of Americans in the Philippines in the heyday of U.S. colonial power in the first half of our century.

During his 20 years' rule, President F. Marcos has unfailingly declared the importance of the military-strategic alliance between the United States and the Philippines. Foreign capital also had freedom on the islands during those years. What has worried the United States so much, what has prompted it to take actions viewed by the Philippines press as aimed at nothing less than the destabilization of the present government?

Philippine journalists, representatives of university circles, and businessmen, in conversations, express different ideas on that score. Some note that on a number of fundamental issues recently F. Marcos either directly refused to submit to U.S. dikdat or, by maneuvering, avoided carrying out Washington's "recommendations." Increasingly often the President publicly condemns U.S. interference in the Philippines' internal affairs. That is why the United States needs a more compliant president. Others believe that in the Philippine public's eyes the F. Marcos government is so closely associated with the U.S. Administration that the blame for the country's internal disorders seems to automatically fall on Washington. This is causing an increase in anti-U.S. feelings in the country and that, it is claimed, is why the Americans are in such a hurry to dissociate themselves from the present Philippines leadership. Many of my interlocutors claim that the United States does not expect the opposition to win the presidential elections. It is splintered and has no clear political or economic program. In their opinion all the U.S. attacks on President F. Marcos are merely a means of pressuring Philippine leaders in order to limit their opportunities for making independent decisions.

In all its forms the matter ultimately comes down to Washington's desire to ensure the absolute inviolability of its positions in the Philippines and to further strengthen them. At the same time the increase in anti-U.S. feelings in the Philippines is the logical consequence of the policy of crude diktat and economic exploitation pursued by the United States here.

During the 40 years of the Philippines' independence the United States has never allowed this country to gain economic independence, rich though it is in rice, cocoanuts, sugar cane, rubber, coffee, copper, gold, silver, nickel, chrome, and timber. Despite America's economic "blessings," or rather because of those "blessings" and, in particular, as a result of shackling IMF and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development loans, the Philippines has now been plunged into a most acute crisis. Its foreign debt has passed $25 billion and no Philippine economist dares to predict when this debt will be repaid or if it will ever be repaid at all. And to cap these misfortunes the U.S. Congress intends to impose even more restrictions on the import into the United States of Philippine sugar, textiles, and footwear. And this at a time when the recession in the sugar industry has meant that thousands of families are going without food on the Philippine island of Negros. Many Filipinos are also changing their attitude toward the U.S. military bases. The country's political and public circles are reappraising the role and possible consequences of the U.S. military presence on the archipelago. As Patricia Ann Baez justly points out in the book "The Bases Factor. Realpolitik in Relations between the Philippines Republic and the United States," which was published in Manila recently, the U.S. bases, whose existence is governed by a treaty valid until 1991, are maintained exclusively in America's interests "because there is no direct external threat to the Philippines."

In conversation with me, Philippine Labor and Employment Minister Blas Ople stated that the trend in the country toward greater independence on its domestic and foreign policy is growing, particularly among the postwar generation. This trend has not gone unnoticed by U.S. specialists in Philippines affairs, either. For example, a recent report by the U.S. Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence speaks among other things about the "increasing climate of confrontation" in relations between the United States and the Philippines. That is why certain circles in Washington are hoping to eliminate the friction by means of personnel changes in the republic's leadership -- especially since the power-seeking bourgeois opposition does not envisage radical changes in relations with the United States. However, none of these tricks can paralyze the mass movement for the strengthening of independence and opposing U.S. dominance that is developing on the archipelago.

SRV, PRK, LAOS CONDEMN U.S.- THAI EXERCISES

LD132159 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] The United States and Thailand are contemplating yet another joint military exercise this year in close proximity to the Thai border with Kampuchea, according to the ASSOCIATED PRESS. The traditional "Cobra Gold" exercise is to involve far more combat materiel and manpower than before. It is seen in Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos as a provocation threatening regional peace and stability.

U.S. WORK AT EASTER ISLAND AIRPORT NOTED

LD140007 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] In a few days, modernization work at the airport at Mataveri in the Easter Islands will begin. Thereby a start will be made in realizing Washington's plans in agreement with the Chilean dictator Pinochet, for the creation of a large Pentagon military base in the region of the Pacific. According to the official version, after reconstruction the airport will be able to accept U.S. shuttle spacecraft in an emergency. However, specialists express the opinion that after modernization it will also be able to accept bombers with nuclear cargo, and also military transport aircraft.

MILITARY LEADERS GREET BULGARIA'S DZHUROV

Sokolov Message

AU072143 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 6 Jan 86 p 1

[Greetings message from Sergey Sokolov, marshal of the Soviet Union and USSR minister of defense, to Dobri Dzhurov, Bulgarian minister of defense on the latter's 70th birthday]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Dzhurov, on behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf, I convey to you the most cordial and sincere congratulations on your birthday and on the occasion of the presentation of the "Lenin" order, this high Soviet state award to you.

The Soviet soldiers know you as a communist and internationalist, as an active participant in the Bulgarian people's liberation struggle, as a great friend of the Soviet Union and of its Armed Forces, as an outstanding party, state, and military figure, who has devoted all his knowledge, skill, and combat experience to the service of his socialist motherland.

I express confidence that the brotherhood in arms existing between our two armies, to the consolidation of which you have devoted and are devoting a great personal contribution, will continue to develop in the future to the benefit of both the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples, to the benefit of the triumph of socialism.

On this memorable day, I wish you, dearest Comrade Dzhurov, vigorous health and personal happiness, as well as further successes in your highly responsible work within the party and the state in the interest of the further consolidation of the defense capacity of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, as well as of all Warsaw Pact member-states.

With my most profound respect:

Signed: Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, minister of defense of the USSR

Kulikov, Gribkov Letter

AU072016 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 6 Jan 86 pp 1, 3

[Greetings message from Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces and Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, to Dobri Dzhurov, Bulgarian minister of defense, on Dzhurov's 70th birthday]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister, we ardently and most cordially congratulate you, the glorious son of the Bulgarian people, the active fighter and antifascist, the courageous and manly communist, on the occasion of your 70th birthday.

For nearly half a century your life has been indissolubly linked to the cause of the BCP, to its struggle for socialism. Your active participation in the revolutionary movement, in the 9 September 1944 armed people's uprising, as well as in the consolidation of the People's Government, and in the defense of the socialist achievements in Bulgaria is an example of your selfless devotion to your motherland, to the ideals of communism.

You are an active participant and builder in the construction and development of the Bulgarian People's Army, which, thanks to the constant care of the BCP and the People's Govenrment, has become a powerful and well equipped army, capable of solving the most complicated tasks of armed struggle on land, in the air, and at sea.

You use your multifarious knowledge and skills, your great political, military and life experience not only to the benefit of perfecting the army of socialist Bulgaria, but also for the development of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

Your fruitful activities within the Defense Minister's Committee of the Warsaw Pact is a great contribution to the expansion and intensification of military cooperation, for the further consolidation of the fraternal and indestructible, international friendship among the participants in our militant alliance.

Please permit us, on the occasion of your remarkable anniversary, to wish you, dear Comrade Dzhurov, great new successes in your responsible party and state activities, and to wish you health, personal happiness, and well-being.

With deep respect:

Signed: Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces

BULGARIAN MINISTER APPEALS FOR 'REVIVAL OF DETENTE'

PM101549 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by P. Mladenov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Bulgarian Foreign Minister: "Mankind's Hope"]

[Text] Sofia -- Never before have the flights of human genius opened up such potential for social progress, and at the same time never before has our planet been so close to the fatal line beyond which lies the threat of universal annihilation. Which path will be chosen? This is the question which now troubles peoples, statesmen, and public figures. Common sense sees only one answer, manely that we must eliminate the nuclear threat and achieve a positive turn in international affairs.

Back at the dawn of its rise and establishment, socialism proclaimed as its ideal a world without wars and without weapons. Great Lenin described the October Revolution as the "First victory for the cause of destroying wars." For more than 6 decades, questions of war and peace have invariably been at the focus of the of the Soviet Union's foreign policy. Forty years ago, alongside other countries which rejected capitalist oppression, people's Bulgaria joined in efforts to achieve a reorganization of the sustem of relations between states which would completely preclude war from international practice. These efforts have become an integral part of the struggle of the international communist and workers movement for the revolutionary transformation of the world.

The present has proved the viability and great future of the Leninist Principles which guide the socialist countries in international dealings. They are the principles of proletarian internationalism, peaceful coexistence between countries with different social systems, and soldarity with and support for the peoples struggling for independence, national liberation, and progress.

The socialist community countries have invariably countered attempts to apply a military solution to the historical dispute between the two socioeconomic systems with their political philosophy and their entire foreign political activity. The thesis of peaceful coexistence forms the basis of the Warsaw Pact countries' foreign policy. This is why they resolutely oppose the arms race and its escalation and advocate an equilibrium of forces in the military sphere and a progressive reduction in armament levels.

The foreign policy credo of the fraternal socialist countries found a vivid expression in the Warsaw Pact states' statement adopted in Sofia in October 1985. In that statement the fraternal countries categorically reaffirmed their support for the USSR's peace initiatives and collectively expressed specific ideas and proposals for overcoming the dangerous development in international affairs. The very existence of the fraternal defensive military and political alliance and, equally, the unity of the peoples building a new society serve as the main guarantee of peace and security. The socialist countries' active and purposeful foreign policy, which counters confrontation with equitable political dialogue and statesmanlike wisdom plays an exceptionally important role. The Sofia conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee confirmed once again that the socialist countries are fully aware of their special responsibility for the fate of mankind and their historical mission in the struggle to deliver mankind from war and violence.

The fraternal countries, professions of desire for a positive turn in international relations are no empty words; they are based on concrete deeds. The unilateral "measures of restraint" adopted by the USSR in various military spheres are an effective factor for normalizing the situation and building confidence. It must also be mentioned that the socialist states have on more than one occasion confirmed their readiness to work and cooperate with anyone who honestly and constructively seeks to improve the international situation, and they have proved it in practice. This is the concrete expression of the approach of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, which is dictated by the realities of our times; and the sooner our Western partners recognize the need to show restraint in international affairs, take each other's interests into account, and cooperate constructively in resolving topical problems, the nearer will come the time when these relations will return to a normal channel and thus revive the beneficial process of detente.

This approach provided the basis for the USSR's stance at the Soviet-American summit, which proved the central event of the past year. True, it did not prove possible to resolve the main problem in USSR-U.S. and East-West relations -- the problem of security and arms reductions. The U.S. Administration's unwillingness to abandon its space plans, its intention to continue advancing down the path of the militarization of space thwarted this. This new attempt to achieve military superiority threatens to turn into the most dangerous encroachment on peace in mankind's entire postwar history. The implementation of the so-called U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative" will nullify the role played by albeit partial, nonetheless extraordinarily important curbs on the arms race imposed by the treaties and accords reached in this sphere and will entail the modernization of nuclear arsenals and the destabilization of the strategic situation in Europe and throughout the world.

This is why the socialist community countries and all sober-minded politicians and public figures in Europe, and even in the United States itself, support the alternative put forward by the Soviet Union, that is, international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space in conditions of its nonmilitarization.

It seems heardly necessary to argue the need for honest, frank and constructive dialogue. At the Geneva meeting the USSR and the United States openly set out their approaches to the solution of international issues -- which represents a good beginning and creates preconditions for continuing dialogue aimed at gaining a better understanding of each other's positions and achieving the mutually acceptable agreements which the world so badly needs.

Bulgaria regards as positive the accords that have been achieved and that are reflected in the Soviet-American joint statement confirming the brief of the Geneva talks on a range of questions relating to space and nuclear arms, stating the impermissibility of unleashing nuclear war, and renouncing the striving for military superiority.

The normalization of certain aspects of of USSR-U.S. bilateral relations would doubtless result in greater trust, the elimination of suspicion, and the development of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries. This would ultimately promote normalization in the whole range of East-West relations. On the whole, the start made on Soviet-American dialogue in Geneva "creates more favorable opportunities for the normalization of the international situation and a return to detente," as was stated in Prague 21 November 1985 at the meeting of the Warsaw Pact countries' top representatives. "It is important to ensure that these opportunities are translated into practical deeds by both sides." This collective appraisal synthesizes the recognition of the decisive contribution of the USSR and the Soviet delegation to the success of the Geneva meeting, which has given mankind hope and optimism.

The BCP and the Bulgarian Government attach especially great importance to, and are constantly at pains to ensure, increasingly effective cooperation among socialist countries on the unshakable basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. In this, pride of place is assigned to consolidating and developing friendship, cooperation, and rapprochement with the Soviet Union. The friendly visit to our country of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, proved a vivid demonstration of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship.

The complete unity of views and stances and the all-around development of BCP-CPSU and Bulgarian-Soviet ties will continue to contribute to the consolidation of the socialist communities and the cause of peace and socialism. It is beyond question that the decisions of our parties' upcoming congresses will open up new horizons before our fraternal peoples, marching side by side toward their bright future. As a member of the fraternal community of socialist countries, Bulgaria is contributing its share to the struggle to overcome dangerous trends in the international situation and to achieve a breakthrough in the direction of eliminating tension. It is playing an active role in the collective elaboration and implementation of the Warsaw Pact countries' concerted actions. Bulgaria, as Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, declared recently, is marching and will continue to march together with the fraternal socialist countries in the front ranks of the struggle for lasting peace, mutual understanding, and cooperation between states with different social systems.

As a Balkan country, Bulgaria consistently and unswervingly conducts a policy of good-neighborliness and mutual understanding. It represents an active factor for peace and cooperation in this area and is the initiator and staunch advocate of the idea of transforming the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone. The creation of such a zone is in keeping with the interests not just of the Balkan peoples. It would contribute to a normalization of the situation and would strengthen the atmosphere of confidence and security in Europe as a whole. This also fully applies to the new joint Bulgarian-Romanian initiative proposing to transform the Balkans into a chemical weapon-free zone. For this reason these questions will continue to occupy a fitting place in our socialist foreign policy.

The Communists and all the working people of Bulgaria are profoundly convinced that the peoples' cardinal task at present consists in eliminating the nuclear threat and achieving a change for the better in European and world affairs. In order to resolve this task it is necessary to continue to work toward the creation and consolidation of a broad front of peace-loving forces. Its vanguard was and is the great Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries, which are consistently implementing a policy of peace and good-neighborly cooperation.

ALBANIAN ASSEMBLY MARKS NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY

PM141147 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark a Noteworthy Date"]

[Text] Tirana -- As the ATA agency reports, a cerenomial session of the Albanian People's Assembly has taken place here to mark the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic of Albania. It was attended by R. Alia, first secretary of the Albanian Party of Labor Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Albanian People's Assembly, and other Albanian leaders.

A report was delivered at the session by P. Miska, member of the Albanian Party of Labor Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the People's Assembly.

POLISH EDITOR DISCUSSES 'SPIRIT OF GENEVA'

PM091416 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Urszula Kozerowska, deputy chief editor of ZYCIE WARSZAWY, under the rubic "Foreign Publicists Write in IZVESTIYA": "Opportunity and Hope"]

[Excerpts] Warsaw -- Addressing the press conference at the end of the Geneva meeting, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, did not hide the fact that the talks had been difficult and that differences remain on many basic questions. However, as he stressed, there was not a single session or private meeting where questions of war and peace and the monitoring of disarmament did not occupy center stage. The Soviet-U.S. joint statement speaks about the special responsibility of the USSR and United States in preserving peace as well as the fact nuclear war must never be unleashed and that there can be no winner in it.

These words were most important for Poles, who are unusually sensitive to peace problems and the existence of danger. Especially since we now turn our thoughts back to the early eighties when the growth of tension in the world coincided with the weakening of the position of Poland, which was absorbed with internal problems. The so-called "Polish card" was employed in the struggle against socialism. The country's difficult stabilization and slow return to the international arena have been accompanied by alarming reports about a new arms race spiral launched by the United States and the NATO countries, the threat to militarize space, and the intensification of the danger of war, whose consequences it is now difficult to imagine even in Poland, where the horrors, suffering, and destruction of World War II remain alive in memory.

As always, Poland strives to make its contribution, to support the efforts of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community aimed at changing the dangerous course in international politics, and works determinedly and persistently to build bridges of trust and cooperation and strengthen the foundations of our common "home", Europe. For example, on our initiative a meeting was held in Paris recently between President Francois Mitterrand of France and Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council. After difficult years even full of enmity in relations between France and Poland, the two leaders, resuming dialogue, made a step "in the Geneva spirit." They were unanimous on the need to develop and strengthen Polish-French relations in the interests of the two peoples and of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The meeting in Paris produced a great response in the West. Right-wing forces and the opponents of detente greeted it with bewilderment and even attacked President Mitterrand, who assessed the current situation in Europe realistically and expressed a wish to meet with the Polish leader. On the other hand those politicians who understand where the course of confrontation leads expressed their satisfaction and the hope for improved relations between the two states. Polish-French relations, traditionally close and in the past friendly, have always gone beyond the framework of bilateral ties, and Polish-French cooperation has been an important factor for peace, progress, detente, and security in Europe. In this context Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, spoke about a "Poland necessary to Europe" during his visit to Poland in connection with the 15th anniversary of the signing of the treaty between Poland and the FRG.

Let us not be too optimistic, however. By no means everyone wants to take advantage of this opportunity provided by the Geneva meeting. On the most important issue of space arms there are still no positive changes, unfortunately. The military potential accumulated in the world is vast and continues to grow. But the potential of the forces of peace is also vast. Millions of people in all parts of the world are acting in defense of peace and against the policy of confrontation and the arms race.

COOPERATION COMMISSION WITH POLAND HOLDS SESSION

PM101203 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Cooperation Is Expanding"]

[Text] The 29th session of the Soviet-Polish Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow 7-8 January.

It was noted that in 1985 Soviet-Polish cooperation developed dynamically and was characterized by its diversity of forms and ties.

As a result of the coordination of plans, trade turnover between the USSR and Poland in 1986-1990 will reach R74 billion and Poland will thus become the Soviet Union's second biggest foreign trade partner. The accords reached during the coordination of plans have made it possible to embark on the practical implementation of a new form of cooperation -- the creation of joint enterprises.

The recent commissioning of two shops at Polish metallurgical enterprises constructed with the Soviet Union's technical assistance was graphic evidence of the fruitful cooperation between our countries.

The commission examined the progress in fulfilling measures to implement the long-term program for the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation for the period through 2000. Emphasis was placed on the need for the priority solution of tasks stemming from the Comprehensive Program for Scientific-Technical Progress for the Period Through 2000 adopted at the 41st (extraordinary) CEMA session.

The commission paid great attention to questions of improving the technical standard and quality of mutually supplied output, especially machine building output. Measures have been taken to organize this work on broader scales and to implement the accords achieved.

The commission defined measures for the further enhancement of the effectiveness of direct production and scientific-technical ties between enterprises, scientific institutions, and organizations and approved the plan for the development of these relations for 1986.

The sides signed sectorial subprograms for the development of production specialization and sharing between the USSR and Poland for the period through 2000 for a number of machine building sectors.

The Soviet delegation was headed by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Polish delegation by W. Gwiazda, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers.

The commission's work took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete mutual understanding.

POLISH FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY REVIEWS 1985 ACTIVITY

PM141126 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Paths of Friendship"]

[Text] Warsaw, 11 Jan -- The results of the activity of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society last year and the tasks for the forthcoming period were discussed by the participants in the conference held here at the Presidium of this mass Polish social organization's main board. The leaders of Polish-Soviet Friendship Society voivodship organizations took part in its work.

The multifaceted program of events carried out by the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society last year, the conference stressed, promoted the further dissemination of ideas of friendship and cooperation between the Polish and Soviet peoples. The forms and methods of this purposeful work will be further developed in 1986. The Polish-Soviet Friendship Society will focus its actions first and foremost on preparing for the approaching 27th CPSU Congress and 10th PZPR Congress. The society considers one of its main tasks to be to extensively propagandize the role and importance of the long-term program for developing economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Poland for the period through the year 2000 in order to build up economic potential and improve the prosperity of working people in the two countries. A number of measures aimed at extensively disseminating among Poland's inhabitants comprehensive knowledge about the past and present of the Land of the Soviets and collaboration between the USSR and Poland in all spheres have been planned.

TV, RADIO AGREEMENT WITH POLAND SIGNED 14 JAN

LD141349 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] A work protocol on cooperation in the field of television and radio broadcasting for 1986 and 1987 between Gosteleradio of the USSR and the Committee for Radio and Television Affairs of the Polish People's Republic, Polish Radio and Television, has been signed in Moscow today.

The document envisages further deepening of cooperation and expanding of exchange of television and radio material on life in the USSR and Poland and about the fraternal friendship of the peoples of the two countries.

The protocol has been signed by Comrade Aksenov, chairman of Gosteleradio of the USSR, and Wojcechowski, chairman of the Committee for Radio and Television Affairs of the Polish People's Republic.

2-YEAR TV, RADIO AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH HUNGARY

PM091125 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Agreement"]

[Text] Budapest, 8 Jan -- The signing of a Soviet-Hungarian agreement on a working plan for cooperation between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and Hungarian Radio and Television for the next 2 years has taken place in the Hungarian capital.

The agreement provides for the expansion of cooperation and the mutual exchange of television programs and for the creation of joint programs about topical events in the political, social, and economic life of the USSR and Hungary. Links between the two countries' radios will increase considerably in the years ahead.

MEETING BETWEEN GDR, FRG PARLIAMENTARIANS NOTED

LD101845 Moscow TASS in English 2249 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Berlin, January 9 TASS -- The GDR considers itself obliged to struggle for peace, security and cooperation. It sides itself with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in consistently advocating the strengthening of peace through ending the arms race and preventing it from emergence into outer space, and for averting nuclear catastrophe, Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber of the GDR, said at his meeting here today with Margitta Terborg, who leads a delegation of the Social Democratic faction in the West German Bundestag on a visit to the GDR.

Both sides noted that the GDR and West Germany carried much responsibility for the removal of the nuclear threat. That is why it is necessary not to slacken the efforts aimed energetically to exploit every opportunity to scale down political and military confrontation in Europe and all over the world. The sides stressed that the inviolability of borders and respect for the territorial unity of all the European states within the present-day borders constituted a basic condition of peace. Horst Sindermann pointed out that respect for GDR citizenship, the solution of the question of the passage of the border along the middle of the Elbe River and the disbandment of the "Central Bureau of Investigation" in Salzgitter would constitute consistent steps towards further accords on improving relations between the two German states.

PRAVDA VIEWS GDR SYSTEM OF ECONOMIC INDICATORS

PM091237 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 6 January in its First Edition publishes on page 4 under the rubric "Community: People, Experience, Problems" a 2,600-word article with a Berlin-Moscow dateline by special correspondents D. Valovoy and Yu. Kazmin, entitled "System of Indicators." The article deals with GDR experience in "improving production relations and the exchange of progressive experience of planning and management with the CEMA countries." After noting the importance of the creation of combines in industry, construction, and transport as a fundamental change in the structure of management, the article goes on to note the different priorities given to various economic indicators in recent decades and then points out that "in 1983 it was decided to make changes in the system of indicators for assessing the work of combines and enterprises" and to base it on these four indicators: "net output; production of goods and services for the population; fulfillment of export targets (in foreign currency); and net profits."

The article emphasizes that "the present system of indicators is distinguished by its intercoordination and meshing and by the elimination of 'gaps' between the indicators." The new indicators reportedly "help to strengthen labor and production discipline. The policy of economy and thrift, and the obligation to fulfill plans and contracts, instill order in all links of the production chain, improve the quality of products, and enhance their consumer properties."

BRIEFS

CONSTRUCTION COOPERATION WITH BULGARIA -- In Moscow today an agreement was signed between the USSR and Bulgarian Governments on cooperation in the construction, reconstruction, and modernization of Bulgarian industrial enterprises and other facilities in the next 5 years. In signing the agreement, the sides were guided by the decisions of the CEMA member countries' economic summit conference and the provisions of the long-term program for the development of economic and scientific and technical cooperation. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 9 Jan 86 LD]

CSSR PLANES IN ARKHANGELSK -- Arkhangelsk aviators and Czechoslovak specialists have begun flight testing of the new aircraft model L-410. These light passenger aircraft, which are manufactured in Czechoslovakia, now carry out short flights around Arkhangelsk Oblast. At the request of the Soviet aviators, the Czechoslovak specialists have succeeded in extending the length of time the new model can fly without landing. It can now fly for several hundred kilometers. The results of the tests are normal and the new aircraft will soon begin service on the route Arkhangelsk-Naryan-Mar. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 10 Jan 86 LD]

KUZNETSOV MEETS WITH DANISH PARLIAMENTARIANS

LD142146 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jan (TASS) -- A delegation of the leadership of Denmark's Radical Party [Radical Liberal Party], headed by N. Helveg Petersen, the leader of the party and head of its parliamentary group, paid a visit to the USSR 7-14 January at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation.

Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium received the guests.

The delegation also held conversations in the USSR Foreign Ministry and in the USSR Ministry of Defense, visited institutes, and met representatives of Soviet public organizations. The guests visited Uzbekistan.

Problems of halting the nuclear arms race on earth and preventing it in space, of making the international climate in Europe and throughout the world healthier, creating a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe and returning to the policy of constructive dialogue and cooperation were examined during the course of the meetings and conversations. The positive significance of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva was noted in this context.

ARKHIPOV ATTENDS RAILWAY PLANT OPENING IN FINLAND

LD150026 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2200 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Finland -- Near the town of Kainu, the solemn commissioning ceremony of the state Rautaruukki stock company works for the joint production with Soviet organizations of special railway freight cars took place. The majority of the freight cars will be supplied to Soviet railways.

Taking part in the ceremony were Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Kalevi Sorsa, the prime minister of Finland, who are the cochairmen of the Finnish-Soviet intergovernmental standing commission for economic cooperation, as well as representatives of the government, provincial authorities, Finnish business circles, and Soviet foreign trade associations.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS BILATERAL TIES WITH SWEDEN

PM091210 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 7 Jan 86 p 5

[Yuriy Denisov "Debate" article: "Soviet Invitation to Industrial Cooperation" -- DAGENS NYHETER footnote reads: "Yuriy Denisov is considered to be very close to the Soviet Government. The name is a pseudonym."]

[Text] Relations with the Nordic countries have always been important in the Soviet Union's policy toward Europe. In the entirety of this complex of relations a good-neighborly relationship with Sweden has a prominent place.

For several years the so-called submarine question has persistently been pushed into the foreground in the complex of political problems surrounding relations with the USSR. For many Swedish politicians this artificial issue has in practice overshadowed the prospect of the development of these relations that are so important for Sweden.

Noisy campaigns surrounding the Soviet submarine's unintentional intrusion into Swedish territorial waters in October 1981, for which the Soviet Government expressed its regrets to the Swedish Government, and surrounding subsequent alleged Soviet violations of Sweden's borders have been used to limit contacts with the USSR, primarily in the political and military fields.

Disturbances in Soviet-Swedish relations have even occurred since a Social Democratic government headed by Olof Palme came to power in 1982. The right-wing opposition has continued to be firmly opposed to all contacts and exchanges of a political nature with the Soviet Union.

As expected, it quite soon became apparent what an untenable idea it was to adopt "sanctions" against the USSR by limiting political and other contacts (as if it were only the USSR which had an interest in such contacts). Swedish public opinion listened with understanding to Olof Palme's statement at the Social Democratic Party congress in September 1984 that it is necessary to maintain contacts and exchange visits between Sweden and the Soviet Union "at various levels, under all circumstances." Since the Riksdag election in September 1985, Prime Minister Palme has stated that he intends to visit the Soviet Union.

It is not least important to have advantageous economic cooperation and to make the material web of peaceful coexistence fuller. Such ties can be built up not only bearing in mind the needs of today and of the near future but also taking a longer-term view so that economically the USSR and Sweden will be able to complement one another more completely.

In the future too the Soviet Union will be able to help cover Sweden's long-term requirements for energy, equipment and raw materials. Soviet economic organizations could take a more complete view of the potential of Swedish industry when they draft the long- and shorter-term plans for the national economy. A possible consideration here could be an increase in progressive forms of cooperation such as collaboration [samverkan], specialization, and major long-term contracts.

An expansion of the contacts between the USSR and Sweden in the cultural and educational fields, more comprehensive information and contacts between people, in short cooperation in accordance with the "third basket" of the Helsinki Final Acts, could play a major role in strengthening good-neighborly relations. As the Helsinki Final Act demands, such cooperation must of course occur with the proviso that there is no interference in each other's internal affairs and that both sides recognize the right of all to determine their own laws and regulations.

Without doubt Sweden's policy of neutrality significantly increases the possibilities of further confirming the course of neighborly unity and productive cooperation between the USSR and Sweden in international affairs. The Soviet Union has the greatest respect for this policy of Sweden's. In a situation in which three Nordic countries are members of NATO this realistic and well-tried course is one of the factors which undoubtedly contributes to the preservation of peaceful and stable conditions in this region and prevents it from being drawn into the sphere of international conflects. Sweden's policy is an important element in the endeavors to maintain peace and security in all of Europe.

As far as putting an end to the nuclear arms race is concerned, Sweden has always adopted stances that have attracted much attention. Sweden has proposed that a zone free from "battlefield nuclear weapons" be created in Europe and supports the proposal for a nuclear-free zone in the Nordic area. Sweden's stance also plays a prominent role in questions of global nuclear disarmament. The work carried out by the independent commission for disarmament and security policy questions led by Olof Palme has become an important contribution to the international discussion of questions to do with war or peace.

The Swedish Government is working to halt the arms race on earth and is aware of what a catastrophe it would be if it spread to space.

No one can fail to see that Sweden's adherence to its neutralist policy (and both inside the country and on the other side of the Atlantic there are forces which would like to get it to deviate from this path) and the increasingly active, constructive direction that this course is taking help to heighten the authority of the "Swedish line" and serve the cause of peace in Europe and the entire world.

POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS HELD WITH ITALY 13-14 JAN

LD141631 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 14 TASS -- Soviet-Italian political consultations were held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R. on January 13-14. During the meetings the sides exchanged views on a number of urgent international problems and discussed certain questions of mutual interest pertaining to bilateral relations.

B. Biancheri, director general of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, took part in the consultations from the Italian side. He had a meeting with Anatoliy Kovalev, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R.

REPORTAGE,COMMENT ON ANTONOV AFFAIR

Israeli Motive

LD150746 Moscow TASS in English 0721 GMT 15 Jan 86

["Whose Teeth Were Those That the Pope Set on Edge?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 15 TASS -- Who wanted to eliminate Pope John Paul II and for what reason? It is, the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA said in an article analyzing the question, "apparently those who did not find him really to their liking."

"There were many ways in which the pontiff grated on the nerves of, for example, Israel which, incidentally, has a far-flung network of its intelligence service Mossad operating in Italy. Shortly before the assassination attempt, for instance, Pope John Paul II demanded religious internationalization of Israeli-occupied Jerusalem and condemned Israel's attack on Lebanon, while expressing support for Palestinian patriots. That Vatican's policy in Middle Eastern affairs clearly galled Tel Aviv. Besides, as it turned out later, Mossad happened to have 28 Turkish terrorists at its disposal at the time."

"Ali Agca fired at the pope, while standing in the midst of a crowd of many thousands of Roman Catholics, in which was obviously a suicidal act, but guards moved in fast enough to save him. His accomplice Oral Celik, who was there with Agca but escaped arrest, also fired. But whom did he fire at? Was it at the pope, or at Agca - to cover up the tracks and bury the evidence?"

After recalling a secret report by the U.S. Embassy in Rome about what the latter called the promising organization in Italy of a campaign to convince the public of Bulgaria's involvement in the attempt on the pontiff's life, the paper said further:

"So both Israel's Mossad and the American C.I.A. acted along the same lines, as well as with the same aims and in the same interests. Since the attempt to assassinate the pope failed and it did not prove possible to eliminate Agca right away, the script was scrubbed and rewritten anew. The Turkish terrorist began to be coached and intimidated."

Cuban Lawyer Cited

LD141033 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Havana, January 14 TASS -- Bulgarian citizen Sergei Antonov, who is tried in Rome on frameup charges, should be released without delay since he is not implicated in any way in the plot to kill the pope, Miguel d'Estefano, a prominent lawyer who heads the Cuban Committee for Solidarity With and Support for Sergei Antonov, told a press conference here.

The charges against Antonov hinge on testimony of criminal Agca, which patently shows that he has intimate connections with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency which is the architect of this plan spearheaded against Socialist Bulgaria. It is not Antonov but those who staged this mock trial, which is distinguished by a host of flagrant violations of legal norms, who should be brought to justice.

The so-called "Bulgarian connection" is nothing short of a large-scale political conspiracy against socialism, Miguel d'Estefano said.

By employing traditional methods of lie, they in the West are at pain to portray the "Antonov case" as "evidence" of socialist countries' involvement in acts of terrorism, to kindle hatred to socialism among Catholics and divert the attention of the working people from problems linked with the economic and political crisis of capitalism, the lawyer said.

Oleg Bitov Interviewed

AU141935 [Editorial Report] Sofia OTECHSTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian on 13 January carries on pages 5 and 7, under the rubric "World Panorama" a 1,400-word interview by a Busgarian television "team" with Soviet journalist Oleg Bitov from the weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. The place and date of the interview are not given. An introductory passage presents Oleg Bitov as a Soviet journalist who, during his "assignment" at the Venice film festival in 1983, was kidnapped, drugged, and transported to the United Kingdom by Western secret services and questioned by the British secret services. "After the British special services became convinced (not without the help of drugs) that Oleg Bitov was not a Soviet intelligence officer, he was declared the most important defector of the postwar period," the introductory passage states, adding that "a little later the CIA suggested that a proposal should be submitted to Bitov to act as a witness in the Sergei Antonov case not without being paid for it, of course."

In the interview, Bitov claims to have "arguments" in support of the thesis that the CIA was directly involved in the assassination plot against Pope John Paul II. He states the "numerous journalists who are very close to the CIA, and even CIA agents themselves, many of whom I unfortunately happened to meet told me so frankly, without concealing anything!"

Bitov then cites H. Gunes, former Turkish minister of the interior, as claiming that the West planned the pope's assassination in order to provoke "a coup in Poland and to separate this country from the Warsaw Pact." Bitov adds that in the Poland of 1981, "when the antigovernment actions of solidarity had reached their climax," the Langley strategists thought that only a "spark" was needed to "unleash a rebellion."

The Bulgarian television team asks Bitov why "the bourgeois press tried to present him as a man who is especially well informed on the attempt against the head of the Roman Catholic church." Bitov answers that the reports about the assassination attempt were not "fabricated" in the headquarters of the dailies and magazines, but came from the intelligence services which supplied certain press organs, especially those which were particularly close to them, such as the British DAILY TELEGRAPH or the NEWS OF THE WORLD with such information. Bitov adds: "They knew that I had nothing to do with this plot and that I had no particular information on it, but they hoped sooner or later to crush me, to corrupt me, or to threaten me, or to use other means of pressure in order to force me to play their game. In other words, they wanted me to come out with the false testimony that they needed."

In response to a question about John Dimi Panitsa, "one of the authors of 'The Bulgarian Trail'" who is also head of the READERS'S DIGEST European office, Bitov says that Panitsa is "one of the top officials of the READER'S DIGEST editorial board," and claims that Clare Sterling, author of the book on the "Bulgarian Trail," is his immediate subordinate. He also describes Panitsa as a Bulgarian refugee whose parents owned "plants and factories" in prerevolutionary Bulgaria as well as "a splendid house on Sofia's Ruski Avenue that has today been converted into a foreign embassy." Bitov claims that Panitsa is trying to "take revenge on his former homeland for his lost fortune." He then describes how Panitsa tried to persuade him to write an article for READER'S DIGEST on the Soviet involvement in the Antonov case and cites Panitsa as stating, "I am perfectly aware of the fact that the Soviets have nothing to do with the case, but we cannot fail to take advantage of this splendid opportunity to undermine the prestige of the communist system." The Bulgarian reports further ask Bitov whether Paul Henze had him in mind when he wrote in the book "Conspiracy Against the Pope" of the forthcoming appearance of "an important witness to prove the Bulgarian trail." Bitov answers that since the book was written in September 1983, when he was in the hands of the Western intelligence services in London, Henze must have relied on him as a witness. He adds that this is also confirmed by a "scientific research" book published by Georgetown University in 1985 and written by "the notorious "Zbigniew Brzezinski" in which the author states that Paul Henze dispatched a series of questions concerning the Antonov case to London where Bitov was being questioned by the Western secret services.

Asked whether he thinks that Antonov has been subjected to drugs, Bitov answers that he is convinced of this fact and that there is sufficient evidence for it, which also explains Antonov's poor state of health. Bitov adds that nevertheless, "with the help of progressive legal experts from many countries," numerous pieces of evidence have been accumulated in proof of Antonov's innocence, and "even the most biased court of justice cannot disregard them."

CONSULTATIONS WITH FRENCH AIDES ON CDE HELD 6-8 JAN

PM111852 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet-French Consultations"]

[Text] Soviet-French consultations on the subject of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe and also on questions connected with the banning of chemical weapons were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry 6-8 January.

Participating in them on the French side were (P. Eno), chief of a French External Relations Ministry department, and (P. Gashinyar), head of the French delegation at the Stockholm conference; and on the Soviet side were V.F. Pertovskiy, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium, and O.A. Grinevskiy, special envoy.

The representatives of the French External Relations Ministry were received by A.G. Kovalev, USSR deptuy foreign minister. J. B. Raimond, French ambassador the the USSR, was present at the talks.

FRG's STRAUSS, RUEHL CITED ON SDI PARTICIPATION

LD142055 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 14 TASS -- The purpose of U.S.-West German talks which have opened in Washington is to reach accord on West Germany's participation in the SDI on a governmentsl basis, which means that the sides should not stop at reaching agreement only on West German companies' contribution to the project, Franz-Josef Strauss, chairman of the Christian Social Union, said in an interview to SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG. According to the newspaper, the Bavarian prime minister urged the West German delegation to the talks to concentrate primarily on the military interests of West Germany, which should assume a a "special responsibility" as regards participation in SDI from the point of view of "security policy"

Similar calls are coming from the West German Defence Ministry. Echoing Strauss, Lothar Ruehl, secretary of state at the Bonn Defence Ministry, pointed out in the military-political journal LOYAL that the West German Government would not avoid a role in financing SDI, which actually presupposes West Germany's participation in the "star wars" programme on a governmental rather than private basis.

These statements show that the "star wars" advocated in West Germany consider earlier decision on SDI merely as a start and believe that West Germany should contribute more substantially to the American "star wars" plans. They have launched a massive propaganda campaign to boost West Germany's contribution to SDI. Enjoying the support of the West German Military-industrial complex, those "advocates" are stepping up pressure on Bonn in a bid further to involve the country in another, far more dangerous round of the nuclear arms race.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON U.S.-LIBYA TENSIONS

Al-Qadhdhafi Cited on 6th Fleet

LD141156 Moscow TASS in English 1148 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 14 TASS -- A U.S. attack on Libya may turn the Mediterranean into an area of war, where all communication will be disrupted and where there will be no trade or tourism, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, said in an interview with the ABC television company.

The American Sixth Fleet, he said, represents a constant danger to Libya. Our children, our families live daily under the threat of an attack by American forces.

M. al-Qadhdhafi qualified U.S. support for Israel as a manifestation of state terrorism.

Inter-Arab Committee Set Up

LD132033 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Tripoli January 13 TASS -- According to Radio Tripoli, a meeting of the Standing Secretariat of the All-Arab People's Congress held here decided to establish a special inter-Arab committee.

It has become necessary to establish it in view of the continuing military preparations and threats made by American imperialism and Zionism against the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The aim of the committee is to mobilize the peoples of Arab countries to joint action in order to counter a hostile anti-Libyan campaign conducted by the United States and Israel, specifically, to neutralize the discriminatory economic sanctions against Libya.

Libya Asks India's Help

LD141235 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 14 TASS -- Libya has officially asked India as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement to take urgent steps in view of the threat of a possible armed aggression from the USA. This was said at a press conference in Dubai by Indian Foreign Minister Beli Ram Bhagat who had arrived in the United Arab Emirates for a visit. B.R. Bhagat said that Libya's letter was immediately forwarded to the headquarters of the Non-Aligned Coordination Bureau at the UNO. For its part, India recommended the Coordination Bureau to hold promptly consultations and take all the necessary steps on Libya's request, he stressed.

Tripoli Demonstration Noted

LD141325 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Tripoli, January 14 TASS -- Libyan and foreign students studying in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah have held a massive protest demonstration here.

They went to the Embassy of Belgium, which represents U.S. interests in Libya, and conveyed a statement to its officials, which denounced Washington's and Tel Aviv's military preparations in the Mediterranean. These aggressive activities, the statement said, are another link in the chain of continuing plots by American imperialists and Zionists.

PLO Officer in U.S. Cited

LD132126 Moscow TASS in English 2042 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 13 TASS -- Hasan Rahman, director of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) information centre in Washington, has condemned the anti-Libyan campaign which was launched in the United States. Washington, by levelling unfounded accusations of terrorism at the Libyan Jamahiriyah, is trying to divert the international community's attention from the ruinous consequences of the U.S. policy of state terrorism, he said in an interview with a TASS correspondent. It is precisely by means of up-to-date weapons, which the United States lavishly supplies Israel with, that the extermination of the Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab peoples is being continued, Hasan Rahman emphasised.

ISRAELI MOSSAD REPORTEDLY TARGETS AL-QADHDHAFI

LD142343 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] According to a report on Radio Tripoli, the Israeli espionage department Mossad has completed the formation of three major terrorist groups, among whose tasks will be the organization of subversive actions and assassinations of political figures in Arab countries. In the list of planned victims, says the report, is the leader of the Libyan revolution, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and the leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

IRAN-IRAQ FIGHTING, SEIZURE OF U.S. SHIP REPORTED

LD131156 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1125 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (TASS) -- The Iraqi Air Force once again attacked oil storage facilities on the Iranian Khark Island in the Persian Gulf, says a communique by the Iraqi Chief Military Command. An advance by Iraqi subunits in the Misan sector was repulsed. Battles continued in the area east of Basra. Iranian long-range artillery bombarded the towns of Al-Uzayr and Mandali.

Nicosia, 13 Jan (TASS) -- According to reports by the IRNA agency (Iran), fighting has been continuing along the whole of the Iran-Iraq front. In the southern section, an attempt by an Iraqi tank unit to penetrate an area under the control of the Iranian Army was foiled. There was artillery crossfire in the areas of Ilam and Gasr-e Shirin. Iraqi artillery bombarded the town of Abadan.

The agency also reported that yesterday Iranian naval vessels detained the U.S. merchant vessel President Tyler in the Gulf of Oman on the suspicion that it was carrying cargo for Iraq. After a 2-hour examination, the vessel was allowed to carry on its journey to a port in the United Arab Emirates.

Washington, 13 Jan (TASS) -- The United States is inflating the incident over the detaining of a U.S. vessel in order to whip up further tension in the region. A White House spokesman said that the incident "warrants serious examination." According to a report by the ABC television company, the Pentagon has ordered two warships from the U.S. squadron in the Indian Ocean to make their way to the Persian Gulf.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER CONTINUES VISIT TO KUWAIT

LD141356 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1302 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Jan (KUNA) -- Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, acting prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, today expressed Kuwait's appreciation for the positive stance of the Soviet Union on Arab issues.

After his meeting with Soviet General Vladimir Govorov, deputy minister of defense, and the members of his accompanying delegation, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, speaking to journalists, said, "We are looking forward with interest to the second summit meeting between the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, and we hope that they can reach agreement on bringing peace to the world, which is in desperate need of peace and tranquillity."

The meeting was attended by Majid al-Shahi, under secretary of the (Kuwaiti) Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Abdallah Sa'ud al-'Abd al-Razaq, director of ministers (foreign minister office); and Pogos Akopov, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Kuwait.

LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY GROUP VISITS MOSCOW

NC141731 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] The Lebanese Foreign Ministry's delegation, led by the ministry's secretary general, Fu'ad al-Turk, began talks in Moscow today. The delegation held a 3-hour meeting with Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Near Eastern Countries Department, at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Together they reviewed the situation in Lebanon, particularly in the south, in light of Lebanon's complaint against Israel at the United Nations.

COMMENTATOR SEES NEW YEAR 'LULL' IN LEBANON

PM121555 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

[A. Urazov article: "Step on the Way to Concord; An Account of the Situation in Lebanon After the Signing in Damascus of the Tripartite Agreement on Normalizing the Internal Political Situation"]

[Excerpts] During the first days of the new year Beirut has been unusually quiet. Only individual sporadic exchanges of fire are audible from time to time from the direction of the "green line" which divided the capital into two sectors more than 10 years ago. With this lull the city comes to life. Residents accustomed to fleeing from artillery and mortar fire gradually fill the streets. Patrons gather in the cafes which have spread their tables out on the sidewalks of central streets and on the seafront. Over a cup of traditional oriental coffee they discuss the situation taking shape in the country. Their attention is riveted on the tripartite agreement recently signed in Damascus with regard to normalizing the internal political situation and achieving national concord. Different opinions are voiced, but there is a ray of hope in everyone's soul that the agreement will bring about the long-awaited peace.

Indeed, the tripartite agreement reached with Syria's active assistance has created real preconditions for achieving national concord. This document demonstrated the readiness of the chief military-political groupings to begin serious talks.

In signing the agreement, the leaders of the Progressive Socialist Party, the Shi'ite Amal Movement, and the Christian "Lebanese Forces" organization agreed on the need to abolish the confessional system and gradually implement broad sociopolitical transformations in the country. The decisions on these questions must be adopted by the new parliament after holding democratic elections in the country. It is proposed subsequently to form a cabinet of ministers from representatives of the country's leading political organizations.

The Lebanese people have greeted the Damascus agreement with great optimism. However, as the local press points out, "there are still many obstacles in the way of realizing it." Unfortunately, far from everyone has yet drawn a serious lesson from the bloody tragedy which has lasted many years. There are still forces that seek to save the privileges that the confessional system gave them. Certain leaders of a number of extremist groupings which have arisen during the war are also reluctant to consent to the compromise settlement of the crisis, which takes into account the interests of all Lebanese communities. Nor does the normalization of the situation suit the United States and Israel, which have not abandoned their intention to wrest this country from the Arab world to partition it into mini cantons based on religion.

The road to peace is a thorny one. But an important step forward has been taken -- the Damascus agreement has been signed by the leaders of the leading military-political organizations which reflect the will of the majority of the Lebanese population. And if foreign interference in Lebanon's affairs ceases and every Lebanese citizen displays good will and rises above serving the interests of only his own community, then the long-awaited peace and national concord will be restored.

ANNIVERSARY OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE MARKED

PM051835 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Shevchenko article: "Unity and Cohesion -- the Guarantee of Victory"]

[Text] On 1 January 1965, Palestinian patriots on Israeli-occupied territory conducted the combat operation which marked the beginning of the Palestinian resistance movement's activity.

The Palestinian people's struggle for their rights dates back historically to the late forties when the Zionists, encouraged by international imperialism and resorting to terrorism and violence, began driving the indigenous Palestinians from their homes and seizing their lands. The military operation conducted on New Year's Eve 21 years ago marked a new stage in the Palestinian people's struggle -- that of organized armed resistance to the Zionist aggressors. Many difficult trials have befallen the members of the Palestinian resistance movement in those years. There have been victories, but there has also been the bitterness of losses in terms of comrades killed.

Staunchly defending its people's interests, the Palestinian resistance movement, headed by the PLO, has received extensive international recognition and support and become an independent factor in the Near East conflict: Without its participation that conflict cannot be justly resolved. None of this has been to the liking of the Palestinian people's enemies, above all Israel and the United States. By intimidation, repression, and diverse political machinations they have been trying to undermine the Palestinian resistance and split its ranks.

In an attempt to compromise the Palestinian people's struggle some people accuse the Palestinian resistance movement of terrorism. Despite the hostile intrigues, however, the Palestinians' struggle for their inalienable rights continues. The guarantee of victory is in the unity and cohesion of the Palestinian resistance movement's ranks and in the commitment to anti-imperialist and patriotic positions. The Soviet Union firmly and consistently supports the Palestinian Arab people's just cause, including the right to create their own independent state.

MARCHUK ATTENDS SUDANESE EMBASSY RECEPTION

PM081218 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Holiday"]

[Text] On the national holiday -- Independence Day -- 'Awad al-Karim Fadlallah, Sudanese ambassador to the USSR, held a reception 3 January.

The reception was attended by G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy foreign minister; and other officials.

ALGERIAN PRIME MINISTER MEETS FORESTRY CHIEF

LD132359 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi today received Zverev, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Forestry, who is leading a delegation on an official visit to Algeria. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and the prospects for their development, especially in the sphere of forestry.

GORBACHEV GREETS EAST AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE

PM141805 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

["Greetings Message From M.S. Gorbachev" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] I cordially greet the participants in the meeting of heads of state and government of six East African countries who have gathered together with a view to founding an intergovernmental organization whose tasks will include the struggle against the drought and economic development in the region.

The Soviet Union, being a committed supporter of the development of equal, mutually advantageous cooperation among states and being committed to friendship with the liberated countries, supports your states' desire to pool your efforts to resolve the complex socioeconomic and ecological problems facing you.

We express the hope that constructive collaboration among the East African states in this sphere will serve your peoples well, will be a factor for strengthening mutual understanding and peace in the region, and will promote the further consolidation of the potential of all forces in the world who favor social progress, oppose colonialism, neocolonialism, and racism, favor the establishment of a new, fairer international economic order, and favor the elimination of the threat of war and the normalization of the international political and economic climate. I wish your meeting successful and fruitful work.

SOVIET DELEGATION LEADER DIES IN GUINEA

AB142041 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Forty-eight hours after his arrival, the head of the delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, died in Conakry yesterday. Mr (Manaseryan), minister and alternate member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of [word indistinct], arrived in Conakry last Saturday. It is believed that Mr (Manaseryan) died of a heart attack. A Guinea Government delegation led by the minister of foreign affairs today presented to the Soviet Embassy in Conakry the condolences of the Guinean Government and that of President Lansana Conte.

CROCKER VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA DECRIED

IZVESTIYA's Nikonov

PM141435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Correspondent S. Nikonov report: "Visit to the Racists"]

[Text] Luanda -- C. Crocker, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, has arrived in Pretoria for talks with the leadership of the apartheid regime.

As always, Western propaganda is trying to place the olive branch of peace in the hands of the American diplomat who is making his latest tour of African countries. The materials published on this subject stress, in particular, that the main aim of the White House spokesman is to settle the tense situation in the southern portion of the dark continent and discuss with Pretoria various options for extending the rights of the indigenous population of South Africa.

But African capitals are aware that the White House's dialogue with South Africa, which the Reagan administration has elevated to the ranks of its closest allies, is in practice only a screen for the salvation of the corrupt apartheid regime.

The Angolan press has not overlooked the fact that while C. Crocker is carrying out his latest round of "shuttle diplomacy," U.S. political circles have announced a visit to Washington by Savimbi and other figures from the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandit grouping, which is nothing but an instrument for the military and socioeconomic destabilization of Angola in the hands of the South African racists.

TV's Mnatsakanov

LD142225 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 14 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] U.S. diplomat Crocker, who holds the post of assistant U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, has long been called a troublemaker between Washington and Pretoria because each time he arrives to visit his racist friends and partners, the situation in the Republic of South Africa intensifies dramatically. Crocker has just visited Botha, conveying a message from President Reagan. At the time that occurred people's demonstrations flared up with renewed vigor and new victims of police violence against participants of anti-racist demonstrations appeared.

USSR-AFRICA TRADE FIGURES FOR 1985 REPORTED

LD142020 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Excerpts] We shall now look at the results of last year's trade contacts between the USSR and the African countries. Typical of last year's trade contacts was once again the USSR's desire to give support to the young developing states in restructuring their economies along progressive lines. The evidence of this was a further development by the USSR of equitable and mutually advantageous trade contacts. Preliminary estimates indicate that last year the USSR's trade with the developing countries in Africa showed an increase compared to 1984, and was worth about R4 billion.

There was an increase in the USSR's trade with Libya, Nigeria, the People's Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, and many other countries. For example, trade between the USSR and Guinea grew by 20 percent and between the USSR and Cameroon and the USSR and Congo by 15 percent. But it's not only quantitative indexes of mutual trade that determine its importance. For example, last year the USSR delivered more machinery to Africa, including metal working and metallurgical equipment, equipment for prospecting and mining minerals, transport facilities, and farm machines.

At the same time the USSR imported many African goods last year. For example, it brought R40 billion worth of goods from Guinea, R50 billion worth from Cameroon, and over R100 billion worth from Nigeria.

ARTICLE REVIEWS MALI-BURKINA FASO DISPUTE

PM131659 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Igor Tarutin article under the rubric "Replying to Readers": "Delayed Action Mine"]

[Text] Reader O. Kondakov from Moscow asks for an account of the cause of the recent incident on the border between Mali and Burkina Faso.

In West Africa the final days of 1985 were clouded by armed clashes between two neighboring states: Mali and Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta). The situation was aggravated by the recent dispute about the ownership of four villages in the 160-km border zone known as the Agacher strip.

Both states have claimed the villages virtually from the moment of receiving independence 25 years ago. Bloody operations took place between them because of it in 1974. The actions were halted then with the OAU's help. An OAU special commission decided that the two countries must find a way to achieve a peaceful settlement. They appealed to the International Court in the Hague. The examination of the issue dragged on and it became less acute.

But then suddenly the old wound erupted again. It was reopened by such a particularly peaceful event as the general census in Burkina Faso. The sides put forward different versions of what happened. Bamako claims that the Burkina Faso census officials escorted by military subunits violated the border. Ouagadougou stated that, on the contrary, they remained on their territory exclusively and were attacked by "hostile elements from Mali." Events developed rapidly. Fighting began in the disputed zone. Aircraft and tanks took part. There were casualties. The localized military operations threatened to develop into a regional conflict.

Fortunately its flames were extinguished. A major role was played here by mediatory missions from the OAU and a number of African states. They made vigorous efforts to achieve a cease-fire agreement. It came into force on 29 December. "Mali and Burkina Faso must live in peace," Burkina Faso President T. Sankara stated, addressing a rally of many thousands of persons marking this occasion.

Nevertheless, certain lessons may be drawn from what happened. Two poor countries with limited resources were on the brink of a fratricidal war in which no matter who won ultimately both would be losers. And it is good that the two states' leaders eventually managed to stop and show restraint. The quick and effective actions of African diplomacy to eliminate the crisis must also be mentioned.

The problem of territorial claims is very acute in a number of African regions. They are rooted in the past when European powers literally grabbed parts of the dark continent in their desire to take a little more land for themselves. The colonies' borders were drawn artificially with no regard for the political realities or local geographical features. Many borders have not been demarcated to this day and exist in name only. That leads to clashes, particularly when mineral deposits are suddenly discovered in the disputed regions.

During the independence years there have been dozens of similar conflicts south of the Sahara. They have taken many lives and caused serious economic harm. The French newspaper LE MONDE said the border issues in tropical Africa are delayed action mines dating from colonial times. These mines must be disarmed by political wisdom and good will.

PRESIDIUM APPOINTS KAPTO AMBASSADOR TO CUBA

PM141519 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed "chronicle"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Aleksandr Semenovich Kapto USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Cuba.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Konstantin Fedorovich Katushev from his duties as USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Cuba in connection with his transfer to other work.

ORTEGA ON U.S. ACCUSATION OF SOVIET INTERFERENCE

LD141228 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Managua, January 14 TASS -- President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has rejected the Reagan administration's attempts to accuse the Soviet Union of "interfering" in the affairs of Central America and thus distract world public attention from the criminal role being played by the United States in fanning up an explosive crisis in the region. During a televised debate with representatives of different political forces of Guatemala, Daniel Ortega stressed that Washington's aggressive imperialist policy is the main factor behind acute social conflicts in Central American countries and the growing threat of a large-scale regional conflict.

ARGENTINE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER TO VISIT USSR

LD131201 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 13 TASS - Dante Caputo, Argentina's minister of foreign affairs and religion, will pay an official visit to the USSR late this month at the invitation of the Soviet Government.